

NATHANIEL GODDARD  
A BOSTON MERCHANT

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Henry F. Pickering

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**NATHANIEL GODDARD**

**A BOSTON MERCHANT**







NATHANIEL GODDARD

*From the original portrait by Badger, owned by Mrs. John G. Walker*





[Pickering, Henry Goddard]

# NATHANIEL GODDARD

A BOSTON MERCHANT

1767-1853



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To the Memory of  
Lucretia Dana Goddard  
Wife of  
Nathaniel Goddard



THE story of Nathaniel Goddard's early life, being the first thirty years or thereabouts, is told by himself in the Narrative which forms the basis of this sketch. It was written at the request of his children in his later years, and is here given practically entire. Such portions only have been omitted as relate to instances of dishonest dealing or ungenerous treatment, as they appeared to him, in the daily conduct of affairs, and which it is impossible to give without names or such allusion as could hardly fail to identify the persons concerned. It is enough to say that his views were those of a man to whom fair dealing was a first essential in all the relations of life, and that they are expressed in the forcible fashion of one upon whose mind the incidents themselves had made an ineffaceable impression.

Outside of the Narrative there is unfortunately but scant material for a connected account of his private life. The domestic incidents related are from the recollection of members of the family circle, now become almost a tradition, or from the few private letters which have been preserved; his own correspondence, which exists

only as of odd dates and intervals, dealing almost exclusively with the detail of the counting-room and the daily routine of mercantile affairs. But it is hoped that the record, imperfect as it must needs be, of an honorable business career and a devoted home life, will be of interest to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, for whom it has been especially prepared.

The genealogy of the family makes no pretense to completeness, but is given as establishing in its main branches the successive generations of an ancient and creditable lineage.

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**NATHANIEL GODDARD**



## NATHANIEL GODDARD

WHILE frequent entries of the name of Goddard, or Godard, as anciently spelled,<sup>1</sup> are found in the Domesday from the time of Henry the First, the earliest mention of a settlement in Wiltshire, which may properly be regarded as the family's original English home, is of the reign of Henry the Third, when Walter Godard "Ville" or "Vil"<sup>2</sup> (also written "Godarvill") held lands at Chippenham and Aldbourne in that county. His "Inquisitio Post Mortem" is dated in the thirty-fourth year of that reign (A. D. 1250), and shows that he left as his heirs two daughters, Joan, aged fifteen, and Margery, aged six years. The possibility of succession from Walter Godard through male issue is thereby excluded, and although the names of John and Edmond Goddard appear of subsequent record, no data are found to establish these or either of them as of the direct line of descent.

<sup>1</sup> Other spellings are "Goddart," "Godred" and "Godderte." The name is undoubtedly Saxon in its origin, and by derivation would seem to signify "goodly" or "well-disposed."

<sup>2</sup> A termination subsequently discarded.

In the year 1454 was proven the will of John Godard of Poulton "juxta Marlborough Wilts," bearing date of the first of November of the preceding year, and containing bequests to Myldenhall Church, where he is buried, and to the Church in Aldbourne. This will mentions "John my son," and a daughter, Cecily, married to Thomas Fysshier.<sup>1</sup> John Goddard therein named appears to have been succeeded in the next generation by his son, Walter Goddard of Cherill, or "Chevell," County of Wilts, and the latter by his second son, John Goddard of Upham in Aldbourne, who married Elizabeth, daughter of William Berenger of Manningford Bruce, Wilts.<sup>2</sup> With him begins the authentic pedigree of "Goddard of Upham," continuing unbroken in direct line to William Goddard, the first settler of the name in America, as will hereafter appear. His will, dated twenty-ninth August, 1556 (3, 4 Philip and Mary), proved February 4, 1557/8, mentions a deed dated eighth July, 1538 (30 Henry VIII), of Sir Anthony Hungerford, Knight, and himself covenanting marriage between his son and heir, John Goddard, and Elizabeth Fetiplace, and devises lands to chil-

<sup>1</sup> *Fragmenta Genealogica* by F. A. Crisp, vol. vii, containing abstracts of Goddard wills at Somerset House from 1417 to 1605, by Rainald W. K. Goddard.

*Visitation of Wilts*, by Bluemantle, 1569.

dren and grandchildren in Uppam (*sic*), Wanborough, Wootton Bassett, etc.

John Goddard of Upham (and Swindon) held lands in the counties of Wilts (Marlborough and Upham) and Berks by grant from Henry VIII, and also tenements and lands in Wiggleswote in the Parish of Wroughton, and in North Tidmouth, County of Hants, lately belonging to the Abbey of Bradenstock. To him also belonged the manor and advowson of Clyffe (or Cleve) Pypard, alienated in the same reign from the monastery of Lacock.

The original charter of the Manor and Free Warren of Clyffe Pypard, dated August 1, 1304 (32 Edward I), was to Roger de Cobham, from whose family it passed through mesne conveyance to the Godards.<sup>1</sup> This charter, a parchment bearing the seal of Edward the First, and also the original grant of the "imprepuate rectory and advowson of the Vicarage of Clyffe from King Henry the Eighth to John Godard de Upham," dated September 30, 1531, are now in the possession of Frances Agnes Wilson, only surviving child of the late owner, Horatio Nelson Goddard, Esq., deceased, and wife of Admiral Wilson, R. N., of Cliffe House, Cliffe Pypard.

<sup>1</sup> The immediate grantor would seem to have been one William Dautesey, an alderman of London, who, on April 26, 1530, conveyed the manor to John Godard of Aldbourne.

The Vicarage, situated near Wootton Bassett, still exists, the present Vicar being the Rev. Edward Hungerford Goddard, son of the late Canon Francis Goddard of Hilmarton, a younger brother of Horatio Nelson Goddard.<sup>1</sup> By failure of the male line direct, therefore, the title of Goddard of Clyffe Pypard, after descending from father to son for three hundred and seventy years, no longer exists, except in the person of the Vicar. John Goddard of Upham gave Clyffe Pypard to his oldest son John, and Swindon to his second son Thomas. The direct line of the Swindon family became extinct in 1740, when Ambrose Goddard "of Rudloe," great-great-grandson of Edward Goddard of Englesham, succeeded to the estate by will. Ambrose Goddard was educated at Winchester School<sup>2</sup> and was M. P. for Wiltshire in the Parliament of 1772 and for thirty years thereafter. He was a man of independent views and action in political life, and an earnest and outspoken opponent of the American war.

<sup>1</sup> The church, in the village of Aldbourne (architecture of the period late Henry Seventh and showing the Tudor rose in the stained glass), contains memorial windows to members of the family, an altar tomb erected in 1555 to one of the Goddards, and a supposed tomb of the Cobhams. From *County Topographies, Wiltshire*.

<sup>2</sup> On a visit to the school in 1890, Mrs. John G. Walker was told that the right of appointment still inhered in the family of Goddard as "founder's kin," and could be exercised at the present day. A portrait of one of the Goddards, said to have been contemporary with William of Wykeham, hangs in one of the rooms.



OLD MANOR HOUSE AT SWINDON-WILTS  
*From a photograph by Fitzroy Pleydell Goddard, Esq.*







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Thomas Goddard of Ogbourne<sup>1</sup> second son of the preceding, married Anne, daughter of Sir William Gifford. His will, proved May 12, 1598, names two sons, Richard and James, to the former of whom are devised his lands and tenements.

Richard Goddard of Swindon and Upham, eldest son of the preceding, married Elizabeth,<sup>2</sup> daughter of Thomas Walrond of Olborne. Will proved May 8, 1615. He lived on the old estate at Upham, which was originally a "Royal Chase," but the old royal "hunting-box," whose foundations are to be traced near by, was demolished by an elder generation of the family and the present house built in 1599. This is now used as a farm-building, and contains the arms of the royal dukes of Lancaster cut in stone over the hall fireplace, and undoubtedly removed from the older house when it was destroyed.

Since 1898, when he inherited from his father, Ambrose Lethbridge Goddard, this property has been owned by Major Fitzroy Pleydell Goddard

<sup>1</sup> This title is now extinct.

<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth (Walrond) Goddard's mother was of the family of Kebblewhyte, in whom, as of kin to the founder, Sir Thomas White, was vested the right of appointment to six fellowships at St. John's College, Oxford. This right was recognized as late as the year 1859, in the person of Francis Aspinwall Goddard, her lineal descendant.

Thomas Goddard, fourth son of Edward Goddard of Englesham, was a Fellow of the College *tempore* Charles I.

of "The Lawn," Swindon, who is lord of the manors of Swindon and Aldbourne. The Upham estate, containing the old family manor house above referred to, consists of about two thousand acres, and Swindon of about five thousand, the gross rental being some nine thousand pounds per annum. The "Goddard Arms" is one of the hotels in Swindon, the town being to-day an important railway junction.

Edward Goddard, second son and third child of Richard, known as "Goddard of Englesham," County of Berks, born in 1584, matriculated at University College, Oxford, in 1601, and married Presilla, daughter of John D'Oyley, of Chiselhampton, Oxon, by his wife Ursula, daughter of Edward Cope and Elizabeth his wife, and sister of Sir Anthony Cope, Bart., of Hanwell. May 10, 1634, he purchased the manor of Aldbourne in the County of Wilts.<sup>1</sup>

The family of D'Oyley, anciently spelled D'Oiley, came to England with William the First, and were created Barons Hooknorton in the County of Oxford. One of them built Oxford Castle and another founded Oseney Priory, Oxford.<sup>2</sup> It became extinct in the male branch, when

<sup>1</sup> The original indenture is now in the possession of R. W. K. Goddard, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> "Great Tom," the bell at Christchurch College, came from Oseney and bears the name of one of the D'Oyleys.

Marjory, upon whom the estates had devolved upon the death of her brother Robert D'Oyley, Baron of Hooknorton, married Henry de Newburgh, fifth Earl of Warwick; but was continued, without the honors and estates, through Robert, eldest son of Gilbert D'Oyley, younger brother to the first feudal lord, to whom succeeded John and Richard D'Oyley, the latter of whom held his estate of Pus Hall, or Pushill, from the crown by tenure of presenting yearly to the king a tablecloth of three shillings' price, or three shillings for all services.<sup>1</sup>

The estates of Chiselhampton, from which the later designation of the family was taken, were purchased by Thomas D'Oyley of Marlow and his son John, called "of Chiselhampton," whose son John married Ursula Cope, above named, and was the father of Presilla, wife of Edward Goddard of Englesham.

Edward Goddard was an adherent of the Parliamentary party during the civil wars, and member of a Parliamentary Commission for Wiltshire, while his elder brother, Thomas Goddard of Upham and Squire of Swindon, was a Royalist. There being thus members of the family on the opposing sides, each aided the other in obtaining relief from the fines and other dis-

<sup>1</sup> Hence, perhaps the word "doily" in common use to-day.

abilities inflicted by the party in power. Edward of Englesham was at one time wealthy, but lost much of his property during the civil wars. He died at Lower Upham in 1647, intestate, and letters of administration were granted to his oldest son John; his wife, Presilla, was buried at Box, County Wilts, June 15, 1681, aged eighty-eight.

William Goddard, seventh son of the preceding, baptized at Englesham February 28, 1627, married Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Miles, was a citizen of London, and a member of the "Worshipful Company of Grocers," one of the guilds of the city. He acquired property, but this becoming much impaired "by losses at sea and too expensive living," he came to America in the year 1665, storing his furniture and merchandise in London to await his return.<sup>1</sup>

The voyage was nominally undertaken for the purpose of collecting a debt.<sup>2</sup> His wife's mother, now the widow of Robert Foote of Crosby Square, London, had lent to a brother, then living in New England, the sum of one hundred pounds, to secure the payment of which he had

<sup>1</sup> It was at this time unlawful for a person to take more than five pounds out of the kingdom.

<sup>2</sup> It is quite possible, however, that this removal may have been in part due to disagreements with the royal government, or even to escape persecution, if, as is likely, he inherited the political principles and affiliations of his father.



mortgaged to her his house and land. The debt being unpaid at his death, Mrs. Foote assigned it to her son-in-law, William Goddard, who, on arriving here, took possession of the mortgaged property. The plague soon after breaking out in London, and the great fire of 1666 having destroyed his property left in storage, he decided to remain in New England and to send for his wife and children. Of his six children born in London, three died young; the other three, to wit, William, Joseph and Robert, accompanied their mother to America in 1666, and the family thereupon settled upon a small but good farm in Watertown, Massachusetts, where William Goddard was admitted a freeman, December 1677, and became a farmer and teacher of the town school.<sup>1</sup> Here five other children were subsequently born, of whom two died in infancy.

Of these the eldest, Benjamin, born in 1668, married Martha Palfrey and had five children, and died October 24, 1748.

Josiah, born about 1672, settled on the original farm in Watertown and died November 14, 1720. He was married and had at least one child, a son.

<sup>1</sup> March 27, 1680. "These are to certify that Mr. William Goddard of Watertowne, whome the said towne by covenanting engaged to teach such children as should be sent to him to learn the rules of the Latin tongue, hath those accomplishments which render him capable to discharge the trust (in that respect) committed to him. (Signed) John Sherman, Pastor."

The youngest, Edward, born March 25, 1675, married in 1696-97 Susannah Stone, by whom he had nine children, and settled in Framingham in 1714. Being partly helped by a legacy from the estate of his uncle, Robert Foote,<sup>1</sup> and having sold to advantage some rights which he had purchased in "Hains' Farm," so called, he became a citizen of substance and prominence in town affairs, being successively Selectman, Town Clerk, Representative in the General Court, and a member of "His Majestie's Council" under Governor Belcher. He was also lieutenant and captain of a troop. He died February 9, 1754, leaving some interesting biographical notes, from which the foregoing account is in part taken.<sup>2</sup>

William Goddard, the father, died October 6, 1691. His wife, Elizabeth, died February 8, 1697/8 o. s.

It is from the second son, Joseph, born in London about the year 1655, that the Brookline

<sup>1</sup> Son of Elizabeth Miles by her second husband, Robert Foote. Will dated 6 Apr. 1714. "Item I give devise and bequeath unto ye sons of my sister Elizabeth Goddard, in New England, deceased, the sum of £2000 equally to be divided amongst such of them as shall be living at the time of my decease."

<sup>2</sup> "It is curious to remark that the three sons born in England, from whose line direct proceed the present Brookline family, had light complexions and red hair, and those born in Watertown dark complexions and black hair. The latter for distinction were called 'the Indian boys.' Every second generation descending from the former, to this period, has had some red hair in the family." *Genealogy of the Descendants of Edward Goddard*, by William Austin Goddard.



Goddards descend. He married in Watertown, March 25, 1680, Deborah, daughter of Nathaniel Treadway, and settled in Brookline upon the estate on Goddard Avenue still in the possession of his descendants.<sup>1</sup>

The title to the property is an interesting one. In Suffolk County Deeds, under date of March 28, 1702, Dorman Marean is named as owner of land in "Muddy River." October 29, 1711, the selectmen of Boston deeded to William Marean (son of the preceding) and others, one hundred and twenty (120) acres of "Town Land in Brooklyn." This was afterwards divided by lot, and William Marean drew "Lott Two" hereinafter referred to. March 9th, 1712, and March 22d, 1713, William Marean and his two sisters, Mary Stanner and Elizabeth Vivian, "being the three only children and heirs of Dorman Marean, late of Brookline, alias 'Muddy River,'" conveyed to Joseph Goddard, "Cordwainer," "that one messuage tenement or dwell-

<sup>1</sup> He had also a grant of land in Deerfield Mass., about the year 1687-88.

The Rev. John Eliot's record of "Such as adjoynd themselves unto the fellowship of this Church of Christ at Roxborough" in the year 1700 contains the names of "Joseph Goddard and his wife Deborah." There was no meeting-house in "Muddy River" (Brookline) until 1715, the inhabitants attending the First Church in Roxbury, where one-fifth of the "sittings" were assigned to their use. March 21, 1714/5, Joseph Goddard was appointed a "Leather Sealer," and May 16, 1715, was one of a Committee of Five "on the work of the meeting-house in order to the finishing of it." March 18, 1716/7 he was chosen Town Treasurer.

ing house, with the orchard, meadow and arable (*sic*) ground fifty (50) acres in Brookline on land of Josiah Winchester, Thomas Woodward and Joshua and Benjamin Child, and the Roxbury line, which said orchard, etc., with part of the buildings thereon standing and being, that is, the whole westerly end or half part of the present dwelling house, were formerly the inheritance of their father, Dorman Marean, deceased." Also a piece of five acres adjoining the above and Bowen's farm and land of Child; also four acres on Caleb Sanders, Joseph White, John Douce, and common land of Brookline, being "Lott Two" above referred to; and twelve acres on Winchester, White and Woodward. From Joseph Goddard the estate passed by deed and will to his son John, who in the meantime had moved to Worcester, and who, March 1, 1753, deeded to his son John, known in this sketch as "the Wagon-Master," "one half part of all my housing and land in Brookline, being three parcels, to wit, sixty acres with dwellinghouse and barn and two lots of five and seven acres respectively, in all seventy-two acres, bounding on Winchester, Woodward and Child."

John Goddard appears to have added to the estate by purchases at sundry times from 1754 to 1783, aggregating some thirty-four acres, from Joshua and Isaac Child and Thomas

White. There would thus seem to have ultimately vested in John Goddard, "the Wagon-Master," seventy acres of homestead and land adjoining, and this estimate is confirmed by subsequent conveyances of record. April 1, 1797, John Goddard conveyed to his son, Joseph Goddard, "all that farm whereon the said Joseph now lives, containing about seventy acres," and May 12, 1831 Joseph Goddard conveyed to his son,<sup>1</sup> Abijah Warren Goddard, the same property, "except a piece of about four acres with the 'cottage' in which grantor now lives and all other buildings thereon standing as now enclosed by a wall, containing about sixty-six acres; also excepting and reserving the use and improvement of the piece or parcel of land called the 'Vineyard' to grantor during life, and the right of cutting wood and brush and taking mud or peat for grantor's own profit and advantage, provided sufficient wood is left for supplying the fire of my son, the said Abijah, his heirs and assigns." This property is now occupied by Mrs. Watson, a daughter of Abijah Warren Goddard.<sup>2</sup> The original acreage has been diminished by conveyances of later date, considerable areas now forming portions of ad-

<sup>1</sup> As was the custom of those days, when the eldest son married, the parents moved out of the old house and built another on the estate, leaving the homestead to the son.

<sup>2</sup> The original deeds of title are in the possession of Mrs. Watson.

joining estates, but enough has been kept to prevent encroachment upon the "homestead" and its immediate surroundings. Joseph Goddard died July 25, 1728, in the seventy-third year of his age, and is buried in the family vault in the old town burying-ground on Walnut Street in Brookline.

Of the marriage of Joseph and Deborah Goddard were born four sons, Joseph, James, Robert, and John, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Deborah. In his will, dated December 25, 1724, and proved August 19, 1728, Joseph Goddard names three sons, James, Robert and John, Joseph having meanwhile died, and two daughters, Elizabeth Adams and Deborah Child, and makes the following devise: "Whereas all my other sons have had trades and my son John has hitherto continued with me and been a help to me in my advanced age, that therefore my said son, John Goddard, shall have and enjoy all and singular my housing, lands, marsh and meadow, in Brookline, etc., with all and singular the appurtenances, etc., which I appraise at five hundred pounds, bills of credit on this Province," he being required to pay to the other children of the testator the balance of five hundred pounds after payment of debts, legacies, etc.

John Goddard, the fourth son of the preceding

and devisee of the homestead, named in his father's will, was born in Brookline in 1699, and was twice married, first, in 1725, to Lucy, daughter of John and Sarah Seaver, who died leaving no children, and second, April 4, 1729, to Hannah (Jennison), widow of Jonathan Stone, by whom he had three sons and one daughter, John, Samuel, Hannah and Joseph. He settled on the patrimonial estate devised to him by his father, living there until 1745, when he removed to Worcester, where he died June 26, 1785, aged eighty-six.<sup>1</sup> His wife, Hannah, died in Worcester December 10, 1777, aged seventy-five.<sup>2</sup>

John Goddard "the Wagon-Master," eldest son of the preceding, was born May 28, 1730, and married, in 1753, Sarah Brewer, by whom he had one daughter, Sarah, born April 26, 1754, died June 26, 1780. His wife died January 26, 1755. He married for a second wife Hannah Seaver, born July 16th, o. s. 1735, by whom he had twelve sons and three daughters, as follows: John, Samuel, Hannah, Joseph, Benjamin,

<sup>1</sup> John Goddard was a constable of Brookline, appointed March 1, 1731/32. By a vote of the town he was authorized "to draw out of the Treasury the sum of £9 to purchis a more conveanant way to meeting and other conveanances."

<sup>2</sup> It is said that John Goddard wanted to marry Hannah Jennison first, but she declined, saying that she "wanted to have a little longer fling."



Lucy, Benjamin 2d, Nathaniel, Jonathan, Jonathan 2d, Abijah, Abijah 2d, Warren, Lucy 2d, William. Of these fifteen children, own brothers and sisters, ten lived to maturity, three, Benjamin 1st, Jonathan 1st and Abijah 1st died in infancy, and the two Lucys in childhood. Much of John Goddard's private life, as a New England farmer, will be learned from the narrative of his son Nathaniel, and it will be sufficient here to mention certain of his appointments to public service, as they appear of contemporaneous record, showing his active participation in the stirring events of the time, and his share in the civic and military duties required of the citizen by his state and town.

From 1763 to 1770 John Goddard held successively the offices of Constable, Surveyor of Highways, Selectman and Assessor, and Collector of the Town of Brookline; and in 1775 and for several years succeeding he was regularly chosen to be moderator of the annual town meeting.

December 15, 1767, "at a Meeting of the Freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Brooklyn Legally assembled at the Meeting-house," it was voted that "The Town will take all prudent and Legal Measures to promote Industry, Occonimy and Manufactures in this

Province and in any of the British American Colonies and will likewise take all Legal Measures to Discourage the Use of European Superfluities;" and, second, "To choose five persons to wit: [to] be a Committee to prepare a form for Subscription against Receiving of those European Superfluities<sup>1</sup> and to make Report at the adjournment of this meeting." (Adjourned to December 29 at 2 P. M.)

At the trial of the British soldiers for firing on the townspeople in State Street on the 5th of March, 1770, John Goddard was a witness (No. 39), and testified that "as he was passing the street on Saturday last, being the 3rd inst., he was stopped near the barracks in Water Street and sold to the barracks people some potatoes about five o'clock in the afternoon; and found by their discourse some of the soldiers had returned from a fray near the rope-walk, and a number of soldiers came out of the barracks,<sup>2</sup> he supposed about twenty, with clubs, seemingly much enraged, and one in a profane manner swore he would be revenged on them if he fired the town."<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Paint, paper, glass and tea, on which a duty had been laid by Parliament for importation into the colonies.

<sup>2</sup> The Twenty-ninth Regiment was quartered in Water and Atkinson streets.

<sup>3</sup> From *History of the Boston Massacre*, by Frederick Kidder.

December 11, 1772, John Goddard was one of a committee of seven "to take under Consideration the Violations and Infringements of the Rights of the Colonists and of this Province in particular." This was "to be also a Standing Committee of communication and correspondence with the Town of Boston and any other Towns on the subject of our Present Difficulties, and to instruct their Representative Respecting the Violation of the Rights of this Province."

December 28, 1772, when Brookline issued its "Bill of Rights" (Appendix A), John Goddard was again on a Committee of Correspondence.

September 1, 1774, he was one of a committee of five "to examine into the state of said Town as to their Military preparations for War in case of a sudden attack from our Enemies."

September 27, 1774, John Goddard was one of three persons to draw up Instructions to their representative "that he do firmly adhere to the Charter of the Province . . . and in his Representative Capacity do nothing that can be construed in the least as an acknowledgment of the validity of the late oppressive Acts of Parliament, etc.," and was chosen one of



two Delegates to attend the Provincial Congress at Concord in the following October, "to meet the Delegates from the other Towns in the Province and in behalf of this Town to act and unite with them in all such measures as shall appear to you to have a tendency to promote the welfare of this Province to recover and secure the Just Rights and Liberties of America."

On the seventh day of October in the same year, at a Provincial Congress of Deputies of the several towns and districts in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, convened at Salem, John Goddard was a deputy from the town of Brookline.

November 2, 1774, at a meeting of the Committee of Safety at the house of Captain Stedman in Cambridge, it was voted unanimously "that Mr. John Goddard of Brookline be Waggon-master for the army and that Captain White inform him of his choice by the Province."<sup>1</sup>

January 1, 1775, he was one of a committee of three to instruct the Brookline delegate to the Continental Congress.

May 15, 1775, the following certificate was issued from Headquarters: "This is to certify

<sup>1</sup> *Journals of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts*, p. 512.

that Mr. John Goddard has been appointed by the joint Committees of Safety and Supplies to this Colony, to convey such articles of stores from one part of this Colony to another as the public exigency may require, under the direction of the Commissary General and the ordnance store keeper, and that such other waggoners or drivers are to be employed as he shall recommend for that purpose."

In the Orderly Book of Abijah Wyman, who commanded a company in Colonel William Prescott's Regiment, under date of August 9, 1775, appears the following: "Mr. John Godard is apinted By the Comander yn Cheaf wagon master genl to the army of the twelve united Collinies and is to Be obayed as such."

May 20, 1776, John Goddard was chosen a Representative from Brookline, and was advised by the meeting "that if the Honorable Congress should for the Safety of the American Colonies Declare them Independent of the kingdom of Great Briton, then we said Inhabitants will solemnly engage with our Lives and fortunes to support them in the measure."

Following are extracts from the Massachusetts Archives, vol. 174, p. 329, and vol. 220, p. 9.

TO THE HON<sup>BLE</sup> THE COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF  
THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

The Subscriber humbly sheweth that Caleb Davis Esq purchasing Commissary of this State has procured a large Quantity of Stores for the use of the Troops raised by s<sup>d</sup> State and that he has rec<sup>d</sup> Intelligence from one of the Commis-saries that he is out of stores & that the Army is in great Want of them, upon receiving this Account of him I immediately proceeded to procure Teams to forward them to the Army & have rode five days to about fifteen or eighteen Towns where I tho't it most probable I could raise them, & have not been able to get a certain promise of any though I went so far as to offer nine Shillings p<sup>r</sup> Mile, the Teams which have been constantly employed in carting being all engaged in removing private property, and the Farmers could not spare theirs till after haying & harvest which will not be in less than five or six Weeks; and I believe it will be impossible for me to engage them in less time unless your Honors can point out to me some more effectual Method than what has yet been taken: And as there is no prospect of my answering the Expectation of the Honourable Court, Spending time & Money without performing the business will greatly injure the publick & the Army as

well as my own private Interest, would therefore humbly request of your Honors to dismiss me from the Service of Conductor, on my properly settling past Accounts.

As in duty bound shall ever pray—

JOHN GODDARD

BROOKLINE July 21<sup>st</sup> 1778

TO THE HONORABLE THE GENERAL COURT OF  
THE STATE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

I take this opportunity to acquaint the honorable Court that in Obedience to their Resolve of the 27<sup>th</sup> of April last & an additional one of the hon<sup>ble</sup> Council of the 20<sup>th</sup> of July directing me, (if in want of Teams for the transportation of State Stores to the Army) to apply to Justices of the Peace & Select Men therefor who by s<sup>d</sup> Resolve were directd, on my Application to procure s<sup>d</sup> Teams by Impress, I applied to the Justices of the Peace & Select Men of several Towns who did not carry s<sup>d</sup> Resolve so fully into execution as to procure the Teams; tho' they went so far as to impress them yet the Persons impressed, in open defiance of the Authority of the hon<sup>ble</sup> Court absolutely refused to go on with s<sup>d</sup> Stores let the Consequences be what they would, to the great damage of the publick.

Gentlemen your obed<sup>t</sup> h<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN GODDARD

OCT<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1778

In the House of Representatives Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 1778

Read & thereupon Ordered That Mr Nye & Maj: Goodman with such as y<sup>e</sup> Hon Board shall join be a Committee to consider the same, & report—

Sent up for Concurrence

JOHN PICKERING Spk<sup>r</sup>

In Council Sep. 30. 1778

Read & Concurred and Tim<sup>o</sup> Edwards Esq is joined

JN<sup>o</sup> AVERY D<sup>r</sup> Secy.

In Volume 65 of the “Revolutionary Rolls,” being the Massachusetts Muster and Pay Rolls, appears the following:—

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, May 10, 1779.

You are hereby directed to pay out of the public treasury of this State to Mr. John Goddard, late Conductor of Stores to the Army, the sum of seven hundred and eighty-three pounds thirteen shillings and three pence in full of his Ballce settled by the committee appointed to audit accounts — for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

By Advice of Council.

JOHN AVERY, Secretary.

Hon. Henry Gardner, Treasurer.

£783 . 13 . 3.

“At a Convention begun and held at Concord, in the County of Middlesex, in and for the State of Massachusetts Bay, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1779, ‘for the purpose of carrying into effect the several interesting and important measures recommended by Congress to the Inhabitants of the United States in their late wise, seasonable and animating address,’ there being by vote one delegate from each town, Captain John Goddard was such delegate from the town of Brookline.”

#### Proceedings of the Convention

In the “Expense Book” of Captain John Goddard are found the following items:

- March 4-28, 1775. Engaging teams and transporting stores, time, etc. Charged to Committee for supplies.
- April 16, 1775. Carted 2 ox-cart loads and 2 horse-cart loads of canteens to Concord, and entrenching tools Brookline to Worcester.
- April 22, 1775. To supping and breakfasting 12 men and 4 oxen.
- April 24, 1775. Entertaining teames and men that brought canteens, and carters with ordinance stores.
- May 22, 1775. Began to be constant in service of the Province. Myself and Horse.
- June 27, 1775. One day's work of 2 hands and teams Drawing tree to the brestwork.
- July 19, 1775. To cart and tent poles and Baggage for Colonel Danielson's Regiment O..14..0 Also gabeons.



Occasional entries like the following show that the teamsters were provided for on the road: "one-half bowl toddy and one-half mug flip."

Continuing to be "constant in service" of the State as of the Province, from 1785 to 1792 John Goddard was a Representative in the state legislature from the town of Brookline.

Of the children of John and Hannah Goddard, the eldest, John, born November 12, 1756, was graduated at Harvard College in 1777, and studied medicine, but, owing to feeble health, never practised as a physician. He settled as an apothecary in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where he continued to live during the remainder of his life, serving as Representative and Senator in the legislature, and declining nominations as United States Senator and Governor. He was four times married; first, to Susanna, daughter of John Heath of Brookline; second, to Jane, daughter of John Boyd of Portsmouth; third to Mary, daughter of the Rev. Samuel Langdon of Portsmouth, president of Harvard College from 1774 to 1780;<sup>1</sup> and fourth, to Ann White. By the first three he became the father of fourteen children. He died December 18, 1829, aged seventy-three years.

<sup>1</sup> The house in which he lived with his third wife, Mary Langdon, is still standing in Pleasant Street, Portsmouth, and is occupied by his granddaughter, Mrs. Thomas A. Harris.

Samuel, the second son, born February 28, 1758, married Joanna Brewer. By her he had three children, and died August 25, 1786.

Hannah, the eldest daughter, born October 13, 1759, died unmarried September 16, 1786.

Joseph, born April 15, 1761, lived on the old family estate in Brookline, and married, first, Mary, daughter of Samuel and Sybil Aspinwall, by whom he had eleven children; and second, Susanna Snelling. This latter marriage is thus humorously alluded to by his brother Nathaniel, in a letter dated February 17, 1830: "My brother Joseph is to be married on Thursday evening next to a widow Snelling, about 45 years old. . . . She has lived a widow nearly opposite M<sup>r</sup> Gray's wharf at the North end of this town, has two sons apprentices, one with M<sup>r</sup> Withington who married Joseph's daughter Lucy; there, I presume, he first got acquainted. It may be announced in the public papers thus 'Married, Mr. Joseph Goddard of Brookline aged 70 to Mrs. Snelling of Boston aged 45 years; may this youthful couple be happy in wedlock another century.'"<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Many quaint stories and sayings of "Uncle Joe" were current among the older generations of the family. He predicted his own death at the age of eighty-six, saying that "his father and grandfather had died at that age and it would not be respectful in him





HOME OF BENJAMIN GODDARD, BROOKLINE, MASS.

*From a photograph by L. Shannon Davis, Esq.*







Benjamin, born January 20, 1763, died June 28, 1764.

Lucy, born February 15, 1764, died February 11, 1777.

Benjamin, the next older brother of our grandfather, was born in Brookline, March 20, 1766, and married, first, December 15, 1793, Louisa, daughter of Samuel May, who was born December 14, 1773, and died January 18, 1832; and second, January 15, 1835, Catharine, daughter of Josiah Brown. There was no issue of either marriage. In 1792 he bought of John May a piece of land on the easterly side of Orange, now Washington Street, at the South End of Boston, and extending to low water mark; and in 1798, of Lemuel Cravath and Amos Whitney, a second piece adjoining the former.<sup>1</sup> Here he lived until his removal to Brookline, his house being numbered 125 on Orange Street. Of this property he subsequently sold the flats to the South Cove Corporation, and the remainder to the Boston Female Asylum. The early partnership between the brothers in the business at Passamaquoddy (see "Narrative") had been dissolved on Nathaniel Goddard's return to Boston in 1796, and Benjamin, to live longer." He died December 10, 1846, safely within the limit of his prophecy.

<sup>1</sup> Original deeds preserved.

being no longer in active business, in 1813 at the age of forty-six bought of his father, John Goddard, his "farm in Brookline on the Worcester Turnpike," where he built the house which was to be his home during the remaining years of his life. It is said that the purchase money was the result of a single successful trading voyage (the last) of the brothers' vessels. He thereafter devoted himself to the care of his garden and farm of some thirty acres, the latter during most of these years being leased to George W. Stearns, who had married his niece Hannah, eldest daughter of his brother Joseph. George Stearns and his wife lived in the old house on the Benjamin Goddard estate, known as the "Gardner house," which had been occupied during the latter years of his life by John Goddard, the Wagon Master, and where he and his wife both died.<sup>1</sup>

From time to time, after removing to Brookline, Benjamin supplied his brother's ships with produce from his farm, but had no share in the voyages or ventures. Appendant to the homestead estate were a piece of marsh land on the

<sup>1</sup> This entire property Benjamin Goddard devised by will to his nephews and nieces, children of his brother Nathaniel, and it is now controlled and developed by the Goddard Land Company, the stockholders in which are his collateral descendants. The mansion house is still standing at a short distance from its original site, but is no longer in the possession of the family.

OLD "GARDNER" HOUSE

*On the estate of Benjamin Goddard  
From a photograph by L. Shannon Davis, Esq.*







PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



Mill Dam, now Beacon Street, at the corner of St. Mary's Street, where salt hay was cut for the stock, and two parcels of wood land on Hammond Street, Newton, for a supply of wood for the fireplaces and for the big "Rumford Roaster," which nearly filled one side of the kitchen.<sup>1</sup>

Benjamin Goddard died in Brookline, October 26, 1861, his wife Catharine surviving him.

Jonathan, born October 26, 1768, died November 13, 1768.

Jonathan second, mentioned in the "Narrative," was born November 22, 1769. He was married October 27, 1803, to Charlotte Martin, by whom he had two children, and died in Portsmouth, of consumption, March 4, 1807, "a man of distinction and delicacy of sensibility, with qualities of an industrious, methodical, yet accomplished merchant and member of society." (W. Austin Goddard's Genealogy.)

Abijah, born August 25, 1771, died April 3, 1772.

Abijah second, born April 17, 1774, and died of consumption October 29, 1794.

<sup>1</sup> This may be described as a collection of ovens, large and small, in a huge brick enclosure, designed to illustrate the principle of slow cooking, and was highly esteemed by the housekeepers of those days. It was the invention of Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford. When the house was repaired in 1885, it was found necessary to remove this.

Warren, born March 25, 1776, and died of consumption December 25, 1797.

Lucy, born August 30, 1778, died December 8, 1792.

William, born January 12, 1781, became a merchant in Boston; married, first, Mary Storer, and second, Mary, daughter of Dr. Thacher Goddard, and died July 26, 1835.

John Goddard, the father, died April 13, 1816; his wife Hannah died May 31, 1821.<sup>1</sup>

The following extracts from letters <sup>2</sup> written at odd intervals during the years 1804 to 1825, being the only portions of such correspondence now accessible, show something of the affectionate relations existing in after life between the brothers and the members of their several families. They are given in chronological order as dated.

BOSTON, 29th January, 1804.

DEAR BROTHER: — Your favours of 26th and 27th are before me — the tidings contained have filled us with alarm and anxiety; having been

<sup>1</sup> In the Diary of Susanna Heath occur the following entries: —

"Apr. 13, 1816. Old M<sup>r</sup>. Goddard died this morning at six o'clock."

"Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. Peirce gave us this afternoon the character of a pious man. He said he was forbidden by M<sup>r</sup>. Goddard to mention him in the pulpit in particular."

Miss Rebecca Boylston writes to her uncle, Edward Boylston, under date of March 5, 1810. "M<sup>r</sup>. & M<sup>rs</sup>. Goddard are still living monuments of piety and goodness."

Originals in the possession of Mrs. Thomas A. Harris.

witnesses of the beginning, progress and end of a similar complaint which Brother Jonathan is visited with, in the case of Brother Warren, we are almost ready to despair. I am afraid we must part with this valuable brother; what can I do, what can I say, if anything that will have the least tendency to afford comfort or relief command me. I am afraid his valuable properties and the tender affections of his friends will not avail. I have communicated the contents of your first letter to our father who with Captain Martin dined with me yesterday; they conducted with a great share of steadiness. Our father will be cautious in communicating it to our mother; our friends here are all apprised of it, and all feel the tender emotions that naturally arise from the greatest fear they can have to part with a dear brother and friend. Brother Warren was attacked exactly in the same way, produced no doubt by general debility, and I have always been inclined to think that his debility was hastened by the physicians taking from him too much blood. I need not say anything on this subject, believing he will have the best medical skill; extreme care on his part will be necessary, I hope his mind will be free from business or any anxiety. This event must bring upon you great care and anxiety, adding to the necessary



attention you must pay towards your great family, the whole of the care of the business, accompanied with the anxiety of mind and fatigue of body so unable to bear it. I am afraid without extreme caution for yourself it may prove too much for you to grapple with; I hope however, your ability will prove proportionate to the requirements. I thank you for your kind wishes for the protection of my property from the hands of ruffian speculators — this subject, however, although I considered of some magnitude a few days ago, has now dwindled to nothing; I don't doubt I shall have a competency to carry me through life, what can I want more? I do not wish to add to your cares, but must beg of you a line as often as changes take place.

Your affectionate Brother

BENJAMIN GODDARD

BOSTON, February 3, 1805.

DEAR BROTHER: — The sorrowful tidings contained in your letters of 28th and 29th ultimo were immediately communicated to your children and other friends. We most sincerely sympathize with you on this afflicting occasion, having so recently been acquainted with your dear daughter,<sup>1</sup> and seeing her most of the time

<sup>1</sup> Jane Goddard, born June 22, 1789, died January 29, 1805.

destitute of a share of health to enjoy the blessings of life which those around her so generally partook excited our most tender feelings and pity towards her, and a particular interest in her favour. We were in hopes that her life would have been protracted and that her health would have been restored, and that she might have shared with her friends the enjoyments of this life a small part of which has fallen to her lot. When we consider how small the balance is in favour of life to those who enjoy good health, when we reflect upon the extreme delicacy of your daughter's constitution, upon the still greater delicacy of her feelings, the peculiar sensibility of her heart and consequent liability to suffering, should we not attempt at least to suppress our selfish sorrows in the full conviction that the change is infinitely to her advantage? Little can be done by friends towards alleviating the affliction of a parent in the loss of a child; you have I trust resources in your own mind far better than anything I have in my power to furnish. You will however accept assurances of our tenderest sympathy in your sufferings and present our most affectionate regards to our sister and family.

Your affectionate Brother

BENJAMIN GODDARD.

Brother Nathaniel has another daughter added to his family; the mother and child are very well.<sup>1</sup>

BOSTON, 12 July, 1808.

MY DEAR HARRIOT: — It was with the deepest concern and regret that we received the afflictive intelligence of the death of your mother,<sup>2</sup> and most feelingly do we sympathize with her bereaved family. The affection I feel for you, my dear girls, and the exalted opinion I have ever entertained of your departed parent, will I trust be an apology for my writing you at this time. When such a woman as your mother is taken away great indeed is the loss for her family; for myself I feel it such, but for you, my dear girls, I feel it peculiarly great; you are at a very important period in your lives deprived of a friend and instructor who was fully adequate to the important duty of forming your young minds, and impressing upon them by her affectionate precepts the importance of those virtues she has taught you by her example, a mother who has with fond affection and anxious solicitude watched over and guarded your infant years; but as the great Ruler of events has seen fit to take her from us we must submit, and it is a

<sup>1</sup> Henrietta May Goddard, born January 25, 1805.

<sup>2</sup> Mary (Langdon) Goddard, died June 14, 1808.



duty we owe to ourselves and our friends to endeavor to bear with calmness and resignation the losses and trials we are called to endure; yours, I think, is of the most distressing kind. I have omitted writing thus long fearing I should add to the poignant distress you must have felt, but I trust by this time you have found consolation and comfort from that never-failing Source who alone is able to comfort the afflicted, and is not only able but ready to hear and answer those who call upon Him. For your father I feel sensibly this dispensation of Providence; it is not a new thing for him to be afflicted, but I think he could never more than at the present time feel the want of such a friend as he has lost. Allow me, my young friend, to remind you that much is in your power respecting the comfort and happiness of your parent, but 't is not necessary, your feeling mind will readily suggest to you a variety of ways by which you can add to his comfort and tranquillity. How often do I wish that I could be with you occasionally; it would give me much satisfaction. Your grandparents and other friends are as well as usual, your Aunt Louisa and I often speak of your present situation and wish much to see you all. Will your sisters leave home this summer? I think it will be solitary for you to have them all

go to Portland; you must sensibly feel the separation from them. It will give us much pleasure to see any or all of you in Boston; perhaps your father will consent to spare one of you at a time and let you become more acquainted with your Boston friends. Lucy Maria and Eliza have never been to make us a visit; perhaps it would be an advantage to their health at this time, and would be a great gratification to us. We anticipate a visit from your Aunt Charlotte; perhaps some of you will accompany her. Will you be so good as to tell your Aunt that I am not going from home and shall daily hope to see her in Boston; please to remember me to your father and make the request known to him if it will be agreeable to any of you to leave home. I hope your Aunt Eliza Langdon is with you still; I have so often heard you speak of her that I feel in some measure acquainted with her and should be gratified to be more so. To your brothers Henry and Samuel remember me affectionately and remind your younger brothers and sisters that they have such a friend as theirs and your

Affectionate Aunt

LUCRETIA GODDARD.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Harriot Goddard, to whom this letter was written, died September 23, 1814, of typhus fever, presumably at Nathaniel Goddard's house in Boston, the record of deaths in the office of the City Registrar showing

Both Nathaniel and Benjamin Goddard had actively interested themselves on behalf of their brother John's children. The two eldest of these, John and Henry, were apprenticed to merchants in Boston (to Mr. Sewall and Mr. Shimmin respectively), about the year 1802, and Langdon, the youngest, lived for some time (1816) with his Uncle Benjamin in Brookline. Letters to his brother show the careful oversight exercised by the uncle in caring for their interests and education. Samuel, the third son, on leaving Boston in 1813 to engage in business abroad, was furnished by his Uncle Nathaniel with five thousand pounds to invest on joint account in establishing an American trade with England.

March 17, 1813, Benjamin Goddard writes to his brother John: "It is yet uncertain in what manner he (Samuel) can get goods to America; he must of course be governed by passing events, for there is nothing of a public nature that can be long depended on in these times. If intercourse should be opened by any *wise*, or *foolish*, arrangement of government, then he will be in England (if best) to ship early and without restraint; if no arrangement should take place he will do the best he can indirectly."

that she was buried in his tomb in the Central Burying Ground on Boston Common.

September 17, 1818, he writes to the same brother: "It has been so long since I have practiced writing letters, I hardly know how (even when I have an object) to begin, especially when it is a new one and the result very interesting and uncertain. I have been made acquainted for a considerable time past of the intention of a connection between your son Samuel and Mehitable,<sup>1</sup> but had no expectation it would be consummated for a long time, not, to be sure, till he was fixed in an establishment of business that would show a security for the measure better than any untried prospect, let it be ever so fair. Sam is ardent in his feelings and is willing to consider his prospects sufficient to warrant the measure. He is entering upon a very extensive plan of business with very sanguine expectations; he is to have a partner in Liverpool, New York two, and another in New Orleans, and himself to reside in England at Manchester. I am sensible there are many advantages in having connections in different places, if they can be embraced without suffering from some of the hazards attending such connections; it requires so many qualities to form a complete (in fact,

<sup>1</sup> Mehitable Dawes, daughter of William Dawes, Junior, who made the "midnight ride" of April 18, 1775, taking the route over Boston Neck and through Roxbury, while Paul Revere rode through Middlesex.

there is no such thing) man of business, that I conceive it a very difficult thing to select and form a connection (of four parts) of men, that there will not be a considerable hazard in some way or other; in fact the more numerous the concern the greater the risk, especially when failure of any one part may destroy the whole machine. I gave him my opinion early that he had better give the experiment a trial before he should be married, and have seen no reasons yet sufficient to alter it; I have felt very much interested for them both, but unwilling to press my opposition too hardly lest it should place too much responsibility upon me should I have prevailed, and if otherways it might give them unpleasant reflections afterwards; so I have never thought best to oppose any further than seriously to give an opinion against the present time; but I found his feelings very much engaged, and his wishes very ardent to accomplish the object, and as the measure is agreed on by the parties I shall now endeavor that they leave us with as pleasant feelings as possible. They intend to be married on Tuesday or Wednesday, the 29th or 30th inst., and to depart for New York the same day, there to embark for England. As the time is not far from that on which it was your intention to be with us, I hope no accident will

happen to prevent your being here at that time, and if it can be made convenient, any and all your children; we shall make no parade nor will the company be large. Your wife and Aunt White are at this time with us, and are I believe quite as well as usual. She has read your letter of last week.

Your affectionate Brother

BENJAMIN GODDARD.

BROOKLINE, MAY 27, 1821.

Sunday Evening.

DEAR BROTHER: — I understand that Brother Nathaniel wrote you yesterday concerning the state of our mother. Of what he wrote I am ignorant, but it was no doubt under the impression that she had revived in some measure, as that appeared her situation then; but it was of but short duration. Yesterday in the forenoon she sat in her chair and we thought was getting to her usual state of strength, but in the afternoon we could discern a gradual falling off which has continued to this time; at present she appears nearly insensible to everything, she has been from her first change very lethargick. She was first attacked with a heavy cold which produced a cough that continued about twenty-four hours, but not more severe than she has frequently experienced. The cough has left her,



she does not appear to suffer any, even so much as when she had good bodily health; we think the lamp of life nearly extinguished. My object in writing is not only to inform you of her situation, but to give you timely notice, thinking it probable if you are in good health you would wish to be with us on the solemn occasion that must soon be at hand. Although it ought not to be our desire that her life should be protracted, we cannot but feel the change very sensibly — more so perhaps from having her our object of care so long; but God's will be done. Should you intend to come, I should think according to all appearances it would not be best to delay; the lamp of life may continue days, but we have no right to calculate upon it. Brother Nathaniel has just come in and says he promised to write you again if her appearance should change; this makes it unnecessary for him to write at this time. I will endeavor you shall be informed again to-morrow.

In haste

Your affectionate Brother

B. GODDARD.

The history and genealogy (Appendix B) of the family being traced to the generation in which Nathaniel Goddard was born, his own

Narrative may here be properly introduced, as giving an account of his boyhood and youth up to the age of twenty-eight years, when he returned from Passamaquoddy to Boston, where he was to spend the remaining years of his life in the active calling of a merchant, and with which his interests were to be henceforth identified.

#### NARRATIVE

Nathaniel Goddard, the seventh child of John and Hannah Goddard, was born on the Fifth day of June, 1767, in the house commonly supposed to be the original one built on the road now known as Goddard's Avenue in the westerly part of Brookline. It is, however, built upon the site of one which previously stood there,<sup>1</sup> and the removal of which had obliged the family to occupy a building upon the opposite side of a cart-way, perhaps fifteen feet wide, and nearly opposite a vacant space between the house and the well. This was a small one-and-a-half story building without a chimney. In preparation for the little one, a room was partitioned off in the eastwardly corner of this unfinished building,

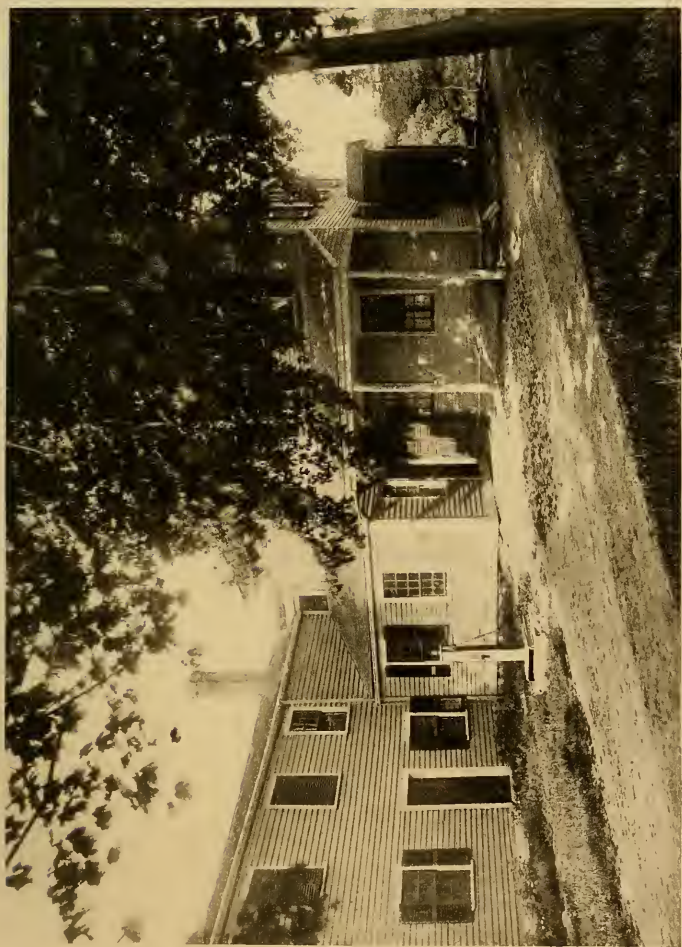
<sup>1</sup> To the eastward near the lilac bushes, and was approached by a cart-road from Warren Street. May 23, 1771, it was voted by the Town: "That M<sup>r</sup>. John Goddard be Discharged his proportion of Rates to the Highways for the future, on account of his being at Such Cost for maintaining his own Passways in order for his coming at the Public Roads. Provided he keep his own Roads in Good Repair."



BIRTHPLACE OF NATHANIEL GODDARD

*Goddard Avenue, Brookline*







with rough boards and battened. This bedroom was occupied by my parents for many years as a sleeping-room, the most of the time until they removed to the northeasterly part of the town, to an estate purchased of Deacon Elisha Gardner. The weather for some days had been unusually and intensely warm, and from the great labor, care and anxiety caused by the extra fatigue consequent on removing from the old place of residence into the new house, and the charge of a very large family, made still larger by the addition of workmen and mechanics, the mother's health was injured and the child suffered much. Its life was thought doubtful, and it was for many years very feeble; but as mothers are always tender of these offspring, she never ceased her labors to promote my good during my childhood and youth so far as her ability extended. I have no doubt that I gave her more anxious and painful thoughts than any other of her children. This I imputed to her sympathy with me while subjected to the rough treatment received, perhaps unintentionally, from others who could make no allowance for feebleness they had never felt, or for inability which appeared in their hardy frames like indolence or inefficiency. The youth and man never forgot the kindness shown to the boy, and at the age of

eighty-five years gratitude to his mother, and compassion for her in the hardships that circumstances and the state of the times compelled her to endure, seemed to be among the warmest and deepest feelings of his heart. That he ever endeavored to lessen those hardships and give what assistance a feeble boy could render seems proved by her never hesitating assertion that "Nathaniel was the best boy she ever knew, almost as good as a girl." My health was always poor, and to stoop, pull weeds, pick stones, dig potatoes and pick apples caused the blood to rush to my head so as to make it ache almost to distraction. My mother was sensible of it, but could not always relieve me. Sometimes she would take me into the house to assist her, for, though she always had at least one young child, she never had more than one woman to help her, except one day in the week, or sometimes in a fortnight, she had Peggy Scott, an old Dutch woman, to help wash and iron, which left very much work for her to do in which I could help her. There were baking, brewing, cooking, washing dishes, making beds, occasionally making soap, scouring floors and sanding them, etc., etc., but worst of all taking care of the children; she was obliged, however, to let them shirk for themselves with very little attention. Those

who could not walk had to creep, and these had a leather apron, which fishermen call a burvel, put before them to creep upon and save their clothes. There was also mending clothes, knitting stockings, and had there been three smart women there would have been work enough for them to do. How she lived through it I cannot tell, but there is an old proverb that "every back is fitted for its burthen." The family increased to twelve sons and three daughters, with but little of this world's goods, located on a farm naturally bare and hard to cultivate, requiring much labor to produce even the necessities of life, for of luxuries they were contented with very few even when they sought for any. On this little farm, naturally rough and hard to till, the income from which was of course small, every man, woman and child was obliged to work and to fare hard; by the time they were six years old there was found work enough for them to do both in summer and winter. I do not recollect of there being more than one female assistant at one time in the house, unless when there was a nurse and sometimes a washer-woman one day in the week; and moderns must be told, or else they would not know from present customs, the amount of labor performed by two women, and frequently the assistant

was but little better than a help-eat. In those days they baked all their bread, brewed their own beer, made their own soap, did all their sewing except making some new garments, knit their own stockings if they wore any, and often spun the yarn, made the cloth for their shirts and sheets and even pocket handkerchiefs, except in all cases the weaving and sometimes taking a spinster into the house. The sleeved jackets and trousers were manufactured in the same family way; in making pocket handkerchiefs, the white linen was first made, though not very fine, and handed to the children, who tied shot up fancifully in it, and then dyed in the dye-pot in the corner of the fire-place; when done, washed and dried, we untied the shot, and behold the beautiful white rings made by the strings round the shot through which the dye did not penetrate; to make the checked and striped shirts, the colored part was dyed in the same pot.

About ten or fifteen rods from the house was an uncovered well, generally full of water, about eight feet deep, where we watered the cattle and horses; there was no curb, and when children had crept out of sight and could not easily be found the fear was that they had crept to and had fallen into this well and were drowned.



How often have I seen the anxious mother search the spring, when by reaching and stirring with a long stick bubbles would rise, which went far to convince her that the child was there, and she suffered most excruciatingly until the missing was found.

At about four years of age I was sent in the summer to a school kept by a female about a mile to the westward of our dwelling;<sup>1</sup> we had such books as were generally used in the country schools of that day, to wit: a primer, Dilworth's spelling-book, a Bible, or in lieu of it a Psalter and the New Testament. The latter books, of course, were not used until we had made some proficiency in learning, for he who could read in the Bible with a "good tone" was much of a scholar. I made as good progress as country boys generally do at such schools. After the weather became very hot, it was thought by our parents to be too fatiguing for us to go home to dinner, and to carry a bottle of beer and a little cold meat and bread, or bread and cheese alone, would be injurious to our health; warm sour malt or bran beer was not a great luxury, and it was, therefore, concluded to have our mode of living changed. Upon a knoll a few rods

<sup>1</sup> The building is still standing near the junction of Newton and Grove streets, and in use as a schoolhouse.

distant from the schoolhouse was a regular pitched roof placed upon a stoned cellar; when needed a fire was kept at one end and at the other end was a sudden declivity with a stoned entrance. At or near the corner at the left hand side of the entrance stood an old-fashioned loom for weaving, and on the right after entering was a small sash glass light, the top of which was even with the bottom of the eaves of the roof, the dirt being scraped away so as to admit some light when the door was shut. This door, with a wooden latch, was made of rough boards and battens. Just forward of the entrance stood a still for distilling different kinds of waters such as rose water, pennyroyal water, mint and tansy water. You will observe that the entrance was on a level with the bottom part of the cellar, there being a small excavation to admit the door to open outward, cooking utensils being on one side of the fire when there was any. In this cellar, or rather under this roof, lived or had a being a most curious old lady known by the name of Nab Wilson, who existed in a state of single-blessedness, perhaps for the reason given by another old lady for her persistence in a single life, to wit: that "anybody she would have would n't have her, and one who would have her the devil would n't have." She was about

SCHOOLHOUSE IN BROOKLINE, MASS.

*Where Nathaniel Goddard attended School*







four feet six inches in height, with a very dark complexion, very long black beard, and remarkably thick lips, the under one turned over to her chin thicker than any negro's. I never knew that she was related to anyone on earth. This good old lady said she had seen snakes look in at her window, the only company she could fairly calculate upon seeing, and I should not think that the same snake would look in a second time. My object in introducing Nab Wilson is to give you a just idea of a plan my father made and put into execution to feed his children in a way more conducive to their health than that previously pursued. We had, I presume purchased by our father, a privilege in this establishment or restorator, in moderate language, a right to use the fireplace for cooking chocolate, so that we might have a hot dinner. I say "we" because there were always two or sometimes three of us to dine, besides the cook, who was also the schoolmistress. An iron skillet, some milk carried from home in a bottle, some bread, pint basins and pewter spoons, I presume with some sugar or molasses, but I don't recollect this luxury with certainty, constituted our supplies. We picked up sticks for a fire to boil our chocolate, and the mistress saw to the cooking and portioning out in our pew-



ter basins. In this way we ate our luxurious meals.

My character, even at that early period, was in some respects what it has been ever since; when I had made up my mind as I thought right, I was rather obstinate and not easily governed. I was so well acquainted with the mistress, who had always lived in our family and whom I had never obeyed at home, that I considered myself about as important a character as herself, even in school, and had often said to the scholars that I would not mind the mistress unless I chose to do so. One day when the scholars were standing around in a half circle to read the Bible, I was ordered very peremptorily to look on my book. The eyes of all were upon me; I did not obey, my word was passed and I was too honest or too proud to violate it. I persisted more obstinately in keeping my eyes in other directions, and her orders were repeated again and again, but to no purpose; I was still obstinate and would not have minded though I had known death would ensue, for my word had gone forth. Very soon came the walnut stick over my back; this I thought a lad of spirit must resent. She took hold of me by my left arm and applied the stick rapidly and with some force, but to no purpose; I had the Bible in my hand open at



about the middle, and I applied this with all the force I was capable of using until the book gave way, and the leaves were strewn about the floor. She found she could not conquer me, and, being stronger than I was, pushed me out of the door and kept me out until the school was dismissed.

Soon after, however, the chocolate arrangement was given up and we carried our dinners as before, generally cold meat, sometimes cold boiled beef minced up and put into a pewter basin, and brown, that is Indian and rye, bread, from the crust of which we made scoops for use instead of a knife or spoon. Sometimes we had sausages, but these were a rare treat; we cooked them ourselves at noon time in the following manner: we cut a stick in Deacon Gardner's woods (now Mr. Thayer's) about as big and as long as we used to be flogged with, sharpened the small end and passed it through the sausage lengthwise, and then held it to the fire, sometimes over the coals and sometimes in the blaze; what they did not get in cooking they did get in smoke, but we had a plenty of Lacedæmonian sauce and our dinner relished well. Our neighbors had children at the same school, and one good, honest, kind old farmer and his wife who lived near the schoolhouse took compassion on us little urchins and ordered one of their chil-

dren to invite us to dine there, meaning only occasionally. He did, and we accepted the invitation, and in addition to meat we always had an Indian pudding with molasses; it was very good though pretty hard, and we feasted there daily; for, as the son continued to invite us very pressingly, we continued to accept the invitations without speaking to our parents on the subject, and without thinking of any impropriety in going daily, until we accidentally heard the mother say to her son, "You should not invite those boys every day; we are glad to see them sometimes." This caused us to reflect upon the subject, and we never went there again, nor do I think that I have since visited out of the family, or its branches, half a dozen times. We resisted ever after the strongest solicitations from our kind neighbors, our dignity having received an incurable wound. I disliked the idea of going to a woman's school, and as one was kept in Brookline by a man we soon after left the woman's school and never went to one again. Our master proved to be but little better than our mistress, and we were obliged to walk about as far, the school being kept near the centre of the town. The distance was about a mile and a half, and we had to break the paths through the snow, for no public road came

within half a mile of the house. Sometimes we had masters from Cambridge, and sometimes we were taught by a Brookline farmer named Stephen Sharp, a good, honest, old-fashioned man who could read in the Bible and write "joining hand," and made us repeat anything that was beyond his comprehension in the spelling-book. When the Bible was read the scholars were arranged in a line, and sometimes filled the outer seats around the room. Each one read in succession, and afterwards the words were put to us to spell from the spelling-book, and any one who missed was obliged to go to the bottom of the class. The master would sometimes favor one more than the other, and if the favorite put all the letters belonging in, he would let it pass for right, however they might be transposed. We had not much to complain of, however, as we were allowed but few days at school; one winter I kept an account of the number — it amounted to sixty and a half. Some less favored boys did not visit the school ten times in a year, and were never so fortunate as to learn the sound of the letters. The master classed them rather by their size than by their attainment. One boy, who probably did not know by sight a letter in the alphabet, was called upon to spell "sugar;" he paused, not knowing what to

say, but, being threatened with punishment if he did not speak, cried out "c-r-o;" he was then told to spell "for," to which he replied "l-e." Under a master of whose judgment we may form some slight opinion by this account, I tried to get forward.

As soon as the spring came, we left school to make fagots and pick up stones on land laid down to grass, sowing small seeds for vegetables for the market; then pulling weeds, picking vegetables and fruit for market, making cider and doing all things as they came in course, occupied us every season until harvesting was over. Almost all was stooping work for the boys, and affected me in a very peculiar manner, causing a pressure of blood to my head and pain more than I can describe; hence my dislike to farming.

About this time was the Battle of Concord and Lexington. The summer preceding, when about seven years old, I had visited Boston with my father. I went to the Common, saw the British troops (then called "regulars," or sometimes "redcoats") exercise and then stack their guns, to me a brilliant sight. Not long after this, the previously named battle took place, and my father, a sincere Whig, violent in the cause of his country, obeyed the earliest summons and left his farm for the battle ground of Lexington. He

supplied seven small arms, carrying one himself, and, after arming his hired man, Joel Hager,<sup>1</sup> loaned the other pieces to such persons as had none. He was active and useful to the extent of his ability, was appointed Wagon Master General, procured teams and transported from place to place the government stores. We had one mortar called the "old sow," a few field pieces, a large quantity of shells from eighteen inches downwards, cannon balls from twenty-four pounds, and grape-shot, powder, canteens, etc., etc.<sup>2</sup> The town of Boston was besieged immediately after the above-named battle, and when I was about eight years old I saw from the window of the house in which I was born the shells thrown from Boston to Lechmere's Point by the British, the burning fuse appearing like shooting stars. Boston being besieged, a regiment of Rhode Island troops was stationed on what was called Winchester Hill, near Jamaica Pond, as a surety for the shells, shot, etc. piled in by-places in my father's pasture, and the powder stored in the chamber

<sup>1</sup> "Sept. 6, 1773, Joel Hager came to live with me." "Aug. 31, 1775, Joel Hager receipts for two years' labor (£41:6:8)." From John Goddard's Expense Book, preserved in the public library of the town of Brookline.

<sup>2</sup> A part of these stores was afterwards, for greater security, transported to Concord, as appears by the following entry in the Expense Book: "April 10, 1775 carted two ox-cart loads and two horse-cart loads of canteens to Concord." One of these teams was driven by John Goddard himself, and another by his son Joseph, then a lad of fourteen.



of my father's shop, the building before alluded to as the temporary residence of the family. There was also a corporal's guard of soldiers stationed particularly to guard the powder. My father being most of the time absent on public business, the farm was carried on by my elder brother, Samuel, and my mother gave liberty to the guard to take peas, beans, and such vegetables as they might wish, upon the condition that they would guard the fields by night from the straggling soldiers on Winchester Hill; but I believe they imposed upon her credulity and allowed their comrades to depredate, as we missed many things, particularly our currants and other fruits. We complained to them, and they promised to be more vigilant. The next night they discharged their muskets several times in the vicinity and reported that they had shot at thieves, but no one was killed, and the farce was only to ease my mother's mind. The soldiers from the Hill cut many trees for shade while there, and we boys used to go and forbid them, and we thought we drove them off, but they were soon at their work again.

Soon after this was the Battle of Bunker's Hill. We heard the cannon, and from our dwelling saw Charlestown burning. While the powder was in my father's shop not more than fifteen feet from

the house, and the corporal's guard watching it, the guard slept on straw on the lower floor of the building, and amused themselves in the evening by playing cards by candle light. One night there was a most terrible thunderstorm; lightning struck and split to pieces a large Catherine pear tree not fifteen feet from the shop, rending it from the top to the roots. Notwithstanding this, it lived and bore fruit for nearly forty years. Had the lightning struck the shop, I should not have been here to record the fact. The report was circulated that some person had said, "There is the American powder in that building, but it will not be there a week hence." This report was sent to the commander on the Hill, and he increased the guard to a sergeant's command. The barn<sup>1</sup> was nearly filled with the canteens of the soldiers, which, to prevent suspicion, were enclosed by hay in large wagons and carts to resemble loads of hay, the Tories being very much on the alert and from their superior knowledge of the country more troublesome than the British soldiers. The teams, to the shame of the country, were procured by my father's own funds and promises, and were paid for with much good money. He received in return depreciated Continental money, much of

<sup>1</sup> This barn is standing to-day in its original position.

which he had on hand when a hundred dollars was not worth a good ninepence. Soon the stores were transported to the army, Washington took command and planned the expedition to take and fortify Dorchester Heights. My father had men employed in cutting and making fascines<sup>1</sup> to carry onto the Hill, and in getting the teams ready to transport all the stores for the troops. The time was fixed for all to assemble, teams were loaded, but very few, not one of the teamsters, knew their destination. When all was ready and at the time fixed they started in profound silence, not a word to be spoken even to the cattle, and all went on in deathlike quiet towards Dorchester Heights. The enemy was not alarmed until the daylight appeared and the fortification on the "great hill" was visible to them from Boston. The world knows what followed.<sup>2</sup> My father was so eager in the cause that, having a son born about six months after the Battle of Bunker's Hill, he, with his sword by his side, carried him up to be christened "Warren."

I was in my ninth year when Washington took

<sup>1</sup> The saplings for these were cut in the woods between Dorchester and Milton.

<sup>2</sup> "John Goddard had three hundred teams under his command. General Heath said that probably never was so much work done in so short a time." From "Brookline in the Revolution," the James Murray Kay prize essay (Brookline High School) for 1895, by Margaret Elizabeth May.



OLD BARN

*Goddard Homestead Estate*





1904  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



possession of the Heights and commenced his fortifications. The British army made preparations to dislodge him, but before these preparations were completed, or about that time, a violent southeast storm and gale of wind dispersed their boats and gondolas, and gave Washington time to push forward his work so as to render the attack hazardous, and the enemy soon left Boston, throwing overboard everything which in their hurry they could not conveniently carry away, such as cannon balls, shells, etc. After they left, a part of our army went on to Rhode Island, and my father followed with the baggage, stores, etc. He, however, resigned and left the army, which proceeded to New York that season, not feeling it right to leave his helpless family, and returned to his farm. He was a very religious man, and made morning and evening prayers in his family. I well remember with what fervor he prayed for the success of our cause: "Be with those of our brothers, O Lord, who jeopard their lives in the high places of the field in defense of their country; may their heads be covered in the day of battle, may their lives and their limbs be precious in Thy sight; may they go forth to war in the name of the Lord of Hosts, may they do valiantly, do Thou back their hands to war

and their fingers to fight, may they play the man for their country and for the City of their God; may they pull down their enemies and put to flight their armies and drive the aliens entirely from our country." In those days our cause was considered so just that the God of battle was entirely on our side.

About the middle of October, 1777, I being about ten years of age, news came of Burgoyne's surrender of his whole army to General Gates. Burgoyne's army consisted in part of Hessians hired by England from a petty prince of Germany to fight her battles. We learned the day on which they were to pass through Watertown to Cambridge, where some of our troops were stationed. Joseph, Benjamin, myself and Jonathan were digging potatoes in a piece of land called Woodward Meadow, when our father came out and told us that if we wished we might leave the potatoes and go to Watertown and see them pass. Joseph was about sixteen years old, Benjamin was eleven, I ten, and Jonathan seven. We were principally barefoot with long jackets and long trousers, and mostly had straw hats. We started at the moment with all expedition for Watertown, and certainly we lost no time, but on arriving there we were informed that they had passed. We started again, running much of the way, Joseph

ahead, Benjamin next, I next, and Jonathan in the rear almost out of sight but never quite so, with his straw hat in his hand, having little if any rim to it; he held on by the crown and certainly ran well for one of his age. We followed the road down towards Cambridge and soon came up with the troops. They were sitting by the side of the road on the wall, the officers on horseback, and all guarded by American soldiers, some on the flanks, some in the rear, and, I believe, a few in front. Here was the greatest sight we had ever witnessed. When we came up with them they were eating their dinner, after which they again moved on and we followed them, passing through the lines and then waiting again for them to come up. There did not appear to be many lookers on till we reached Cambridge. After the troops and prisoners had passed and got to their barracks, we started for home, following the road from thence to Brookline, quitting it near the entrance of the estate lately belonging to Lewis Tappan, Esq., crossing over the steep hill lately Walley's, now Bradlee's, and then made the best of our way home. I never was so tired as when mounting Bradlee's Hill. Suffice it to say that we all reached home safe, but tired enough. I well remember that on questioning us which road we took and where



we went, the folks at home summed up the several distances and concluded that they amounted to between fifteen and sixteen miles, during which time we had nothing to eat and our breakfast had been very early. The next day to our potatoes again. I do not remember, but I now presume these prisoners were sent to Cambridge for the purpose of being exchanged, and probably cartels were fitted out at Boston for this purpose. The Tories, as I have said, were the most troublesome of our enemies. We had but few of these in Brookline. Even as early as the Battle of Concord all who favored the English had withdrawn, for I recollect that it was said that there was but one man in Brookline who did not go to the battle, and that was a Mr. Ackers who "could not get ready ;" but he was not a Tory. But one of these was killed, but he was one of the first men of the town, Squire Gardner,<sup>1</sup> father of the late General Gardner. My father's hired man, Joel Hager, of whom I have before spoken, got behind a tree where he loaded and fired all the time the British were passing, and on examining the tree afterwards it was found that seven balls from the enemy had hit it, but the man was not

<sup>1</sup> Isaac Gardner, Junior, the first Harvard graduate (class of 1747) to fall in the War of the Revolution, was killed on North Avenue, Cambridge, during the retreat of the British troops from Lexington.

wounded. Dr. Downer from near the Punch Bowl Tavern was attacked by three soldiers who were leaving a house they had been in to plunder; he shot one, a random shot from a distance, killed another, and had one antagonist left, and as both of their guns were discharged the doctor knocked him down with the butt end of his gun, took that of the soldier, which was, as he said, better than his own, and ran him through with the bayonet while begging for quarter, and killed him.

In the state the country was in at that time the people were peculiarly distressed; it was not what a foreign war would be; we were considered as revolting colonies, rebels, which was sufficient to keep aloof supplies by foreigners. Our ports were then considered as British Colonial ports, and we could get no supplies but what we could introduce clandestinely or obtain by capture. We were extremely distressed for even the necessities of life, and we had very few of its luxuries or conveniences. The women were obliged to use thorns instead of pins to fasten on their clothes. Of sugar and molasses we were destitute, and a Mr. Nathaniel Seaver of Brookline procured a form of West India sugar-mill, differing a little from our common cider-mill, but only in having an extra pair of nuts, and it took

two persons to feed it. He erected a mill in Brookline for grinding cornstalks to make sugar. One person entered the ends of the stalks on one side, and on the other was another person to receive them as they came through and entered them to go back between the next two screws or nuts, and the juice or sap dropped into a bucket placed underneath to receive it; it was then boiled down to the consistency of molasses. Unfortunately, they ceased boiling down ours before it was thick enough; it tasted like sweetened water with a flavor of cornstalks, very sickish, and we could not use it. It occurred to my father's mind that it might be distilled to make spirits of, which were very scarce and high, for haytime; Nab Wilson was consulted, who had been in the habit of distilling rose water, mint and tansy water, and did not know that previous fermentation was necessary to produce spirits. She went through with her usual process of distilling waters, and produced water a little tintured with mint which she had previously been distilling. It was ever after called and used as "Nab Wilson's water." I have no distinct recollection of anything remarkable from the time I was ten years old until nearly thirteen, excepting that I had a severe fit of sickness which lasted some months; the doctor called my disease a

slow, nervous, bilious fever. I was confined in the same room in which I was born, and all expected I would die there. Dr. Aspinwall was our family physician, but in extraordinary cases Dr. Davis of Roxbury was called, for he was the Æsculapius of the times. After the fever had subsided I was left so weak that it was about sixty days before I could stand. While recruiting they gave me what they called wine, and truly it was wine, but with the creatures vulgarly called "sow-bugs" squeezed into it. I was suspicious there was something besides wine in the glass, and one day heard my mother say to Benjamin, "You must go and get some more." "I can't find any," said Benjamin. "Go to Mr. Edward Childs' and see if you can't find some in his cellar." "I have been there, ma'am, and have turned up every stone in his cellar and got all that I could." This strengthened my suspicion, and I questioned them so closely that I was well satisfied and refused all wine in the future. During my sickness, day and night, my mother spared no labor or fatigue; with her large family, and with very little assistance, she performed her task faithfully, from daylight to bedtime, continually laboring for a family of sometimes sixteen or eighteen and frequently with no other help than one of the boys.

After this, until I was about thirteen years of age, farming went on as usual. In the spring making fagots, when the frost was over picking stones, next sowing onions, beets, carrots, parsnips, turnips, etc., then weeding, planting potatoes and corn, hoeing them, making hay, picking and grinding apples, making cider, picking winter apples, digging potatoes, until the time came again in the autumn for picking stones until frost, then making fagots until snow covered the bushes, and then a short spell of school. Our father was executor of the will of Joshua Woodward, and could not let the farm, so he undertook to carry that on in addition to his own, for he liked much to keep his boys employed. There were a great many dandelions on the place, and our elder brother Samuel, who had charge of the business, permitted Benjamin and myself to dig some for market in hopes of getting some trifle for them, perhaps half of a pistareen or a ninepence. We did not wholly lose our time, however, and we were allowed some perquisites. Our father kept fowls, and each one who wished it had a hen for himself, or rather a part of the produce of one. The conditions were that we should see that they were fed, the eggs collected, and the chickens taken care of. The hen was to set once



in a year, we to have half the brood of chickens when fit for market, and our father the other half to pay him for their food, etc.; we sometimes had three or four or perhaps five chickens ready for market in the autumn, our father having the feathers. Another perquisite Benjamin and I had alternately was that of taking care of and fattening the hogs, as a remuneration for which we had the bladders when the hogs were killed. Our father allowed us another privilege, to wit, one holiday in the year, which was Election Day, but if we would work half that day he would give us for it a whole day after harvesting was over; we often did so, as we were desirous of spending it in gunning, or "squearrelling," as we called it. How to get the necessary half pound of powder and two pounds of shot we did not know. Joseph came to market, and when we asked him if he would buy it for us the answer was that it depended upon our behavior from that time, and he would never buy it but on the last day before we wanted to use it. If he wanted cider we must run and draw it for him and do all he asked for months before to pay him for buying the powder and shot. We were also allowed a small piece of land for a garden, as we called it, where we might, by stealing time enough, cultivate a few things to

sell, such as sage, wormwood, roots, or cives, balm, etc. In spring, summer and autumn we had no other leisure time, but while we went to school in winter we had the afternoon of Saturday, as school did not keep, but by the time we got home we had the wood to cut and split, the cattle to take care of and sundry things to do preparatory to Sunday, so that in fact we worked as hard on that half-day as on any other.

About the latter part of February or beginning of March, 1780, Samuel hired a small farm about a half-mile from the Milton Upper Road. The first house on this road was kept as a kind of tavern, but a poor one; the second house was farmer Bugbee's, he being the first man that ever scraped the streets of Boston and carted out the scrapings for manure; the third house was on the farm hired by Samuel, [his barn being on a hill or rise of ground a little nearer Boston. The buildings named, the only ones in the street, except Mr. J. D. Williams', until you reached Featherbed Lane, were upon the westerly side of the street. Behind the barn above named I was making fagots for brother Samuel on the memorable "dark day" in May, 1780, and worked so long after the darkness commenced that with difficulty I could find the house, but a few rods distant, to get my dinner.



Many persons were out on the roads all night lost in the darkness, which in proportion to the darkness of the day seemed greater than that of the ordinary night; we could almost *feel* it.

When Samuel commenced, my father calculated on giving each of his children the amount of a hundred pounds lawful money, being 333.33 dollars. But little of this was in money; it consisted of a yoke of oxen, yoke-chain, plow, harrow, etc., a horse and cart, shovels, not iron ones but wooden ones shod with iron, some hay, corn, pork, etc.; and he furnished me for a boy. As housekeepers Samuel had the family of Mr. Merriam, grandfather to the president of the Mercantile Marine Insurance Company; his grandmother was my mother's sister. I lived there until autumn, and on the commencement of winter returned to my father's in order to go to school. Here I completed my studies, learning to read in the Bible so as to be understood pretty well, though I was never taught to observe the stops, but read it and everything else as if there were none; and to spell most of the words in Dilworth's spelling-book. I learned also that "in Adam's fall we sinned all," for our good clergyman, the Reverend Joseph Jackson, believed, or rather gave us to understand that he believed, in the doctrine of "election;" that

very few were to be saved from hell fire, and that although we were of the elect, we were not sure of salvation, for if we committed one sin we were guilty of breaking the whole law and thereby made liable to eternal damnation. At the same time was proclaimed God's infinite mercy to our race and I was taught that I must love Him with all my heart, soul, mind and might. I *could* not reconcile this unreasonable, inconsistent doctrine, and if I *did* not I was surely to be damned.

I was then thirteen years old and was very desirous of being a merchant, partly perhaps from the want of bodily strength, as my health was feeble; but my father was always opposed to his sons being anything but farmers. He claimed the right to fix upon the kind of business I should follow, and accordingly talked with Mr. Nehemiah Monroe and persuaded him to take me as an apprentice to learn the cabinet-making business. "Better than farming," thought I. Early in the spring, after leaving Samuel and the school, I went to him. He set me to work making pegs; he had no other apprentice, but two journeymen, by the names of Clapp and Hunting. To encourage me, they told me I should only be required to make a barrel full that each was required to make on commencing his apprentice-

ship. I thought that enough, but found out afterwards that it meant only a lamp-black barrel full. My next business was sawing mahogany logs and planks lengthwise with a handsaw, but I was small and weak, and made poor progress. When the spring came on, having a farm, he put me at work in the field, and being barefoot and treading upon a thorn ran it far into my heel so that I came near losing my foot. I experienced the most excruciating pain, went home and was attended by Dr. Aspinwall. The fear that I should lose my foot induced my parents to send for Dr. Downer, then considered the best surgeon, and finally I recovered, but no human being can imagine what I suffered, for it continued a long time. I told my father that I did not wish to learn to be a farmer of Mr. Monroe, and he went to see him. Mr. Monroe told him it was his practice and ever would be to make his apprentices work on the farm the first year, and to work in the shop in such weather only as they could not work outside. My father was well satisfied that my complaint was just, and did not force me back again. Mr. Samuel Aspinwall, uncle to the present mast-maker in this city, informed me that a Mr. Homes, a goldsmith and jeweller, wanted an apprentice. Mr. Aspinwall was from Brookline, had been a schoolmate of mine, and

was apprenticed to Thomas Pons, a jeweller who had a shop a little above Summer Street, then "Seven Stars Lane," and thought I should like Mr. Homes. I agreed to go and stay for a fortnight, when I was to determine whether I would stay longer. The business came nearer what I wished than either farming or cabinet-making. His shop was the next above the Amory estate on the westerly side of Washington Street south of Winter Street, and his house was an old wooden one two stories high, quite up a yard next easterly of Oliver Street, on the side of Fort Hill; he had many children and was very poor. My first dinner was tainted lamb; I don't recollect what supper was, but an old manuscript says my breakfast was bread and milk. My bed, if bed it could be called, was made of straw and laid upon the floor of the garret under the eaves. I had no sheets, but two worn-out blankets, and fleas enough to meet Bonaparte's army and perhaps to defeat it. I slept none the first night; it was in July, the weather was very hot, and the sun beat upon the roof till the garret was almost like a furnace. I stood it for nearly a week, during which time I made a silver sleeve-button, learned a little to engrave letters on copper, plated out silver and "planished" it for spoons, and annealed silver and

drew it out into wire through plates of different sizes until it was small enough for chains and eyes for sleeve-buttons. To make eyes for sleeve-buttons I took the wire thus annealed, wound it round a suitable sized wire "close" as in whipping a rope, then filed the flat straight surface till I filed off the wire which was wound down to that it was bound upon; then I had all the eyes necessary for the buttons, to which the eyes were fastened with solder and borax. I was charged by Mr. Homes during the few days I was there to sweep the shop carefully every morning and save all the dirt on account of the silver filings that might get scattered in it, and this although in filing the silver it must always be over an apron of leather, one side of which was attached to the bench and the other side to my body, for, said he, "My master swept his shop and saved the dirt in this way and in a few years got silver enough to make a tankard." The mode of extracting it from the dirt was to put it into a crucible and heat it so hot as to consume a great part of the dirt and cause the silver to melt and run together. The way we used to extract the iron from the silver was to melt the whole in a crucible, put in a piece of lodestone and stir it with the stone, to which the iron would tenaciously adhere.



In those days we had no regular market; the greater part of the meats were brought into town in panniers on horseback, and after entering the town the marketer would get off his horse and lead him by the bridle in one hand and in the other a quarter of lamb or mutton, marching all over town until he sold it. They had no ice to keep it upon, and no refrigerators to put it in, so that what they could not sell while sweet was lost. My master always waited for a marketer returning out of town with some meat left, which he would buy very cheap, perhaps for ninepence or a shilling a quarter, and it would be almost always tainted before it was cooked. One day, after I had been there about a week, I saw brother Joseph coming on the forepart of the market-cart steering out of town. I went to Mr. Homes and stated to him that as I agreed to stay a fortnight on trial I would stay the time if he wanted me to, but I had satisfied myself that I should not wish to stay and learn the trade. He then said it would make no difference, I need not stay the other week. So I ran and got into the cart with brother Joseph and rode home.

I have now reached the latter part of the month of July, 1781, and was then at home from the jeweller's shop. My brother John had opened an apothecary shop in Portsmouth,

N. H., and wanted me to go and live with him. On quitting college, finding himself, as he stated, totally unqualified for the ministry, he had concluded to study physic, which he did with Dr. Ammi R. Cutter of Portsmouth. After he had got through his studies, Clement Storer then being a student also, they verbally agreed that John should go to France in a letter of marque ship<sup>1</sup> and procure medicines for the purpose of opening an apothecary shop in Portsmouth. On his passage out he was captured and carried into Santa Lucia, and kept on board a prison-ship, and suffered extremely. At length a cartel was fitted out from Boston, the expense of which was paid by those who had friends there, and I recollect hearing my father talk about the expense, from which I infer that he paid for one. John was exchanged and reached home<sup>2</sup> with nothing but the clothes he had on, but before he got back Storer had gone to Europe; therefore John, being totally destitute,

<sup>1</sup> John Goddard was duly enlisted surgeon on this vessel, but during the engagement in which he was taken prisoner alternately served in aid of the wounded in the cock-pit and as fighting-man on deck. In the prison-ship he suffered a severe fever, escaping afterwards by squeezing through one of the ports, which his emaciated condition aided him in doing, and swimming to a vessel bound for the United States. In this he was again captured and returned to the same prison-ship, where he again fell ill of the fever. From this second imprisonment he was released by exchange as narrated.

<sup>2</sup> On a Sunday morning, and in such altered and emaciated condition that his mother who opened the door did not recognize him.



of course was not entitled to any credit. By some means, however, he obtained enough of Dr. Redford Webster of Boston, by whom he ever afterward was supplied with stock in that line, to enable him to begin. He went to Portsmouth and opened a shop, and as I had left my other place and was at home he proposed to my father to let me go to him as an apprentice. The Revolutionary War was then raging, everyone was poor, but my good mother fitted me out as well as she could. My father got old Mr. Abram Adams, then a leather dresser in the South End of Boston, to make me a pair of small clothes; but they were too small every way, were rather tighter than my skin, the waistband could scarcely be drawn over my hips so as to hold them up, and the knees buttoned with great difficulty by pulling a string double through the buttonhole round the button and drawing the button through, and when buttoned came just to the bend of the knee. I had also a striped linen and woolen sleeve jacket, and my mother, with all her other cares and anxieties, had got two pair of blue yarn socks, two tow shirts which she bleached with buttermilk and which approached to white (we had heretofore worn striped or checked shirts), a good pair of double-soled cowhide shoes, and contrived to have

made some homespun woolen cloth, woven by Nab Wilson, which she got "fulled," and which would answer for a blanket or a jacket. Of this I had a waistcoat made, it was lovely warm, and my father bought me a felt hat; after being worn a little and wet, the crown would rise up like a sugarloaf, and then would do capitally for a grenadier, but in addition I had a second-hand cocked-hat, called a "castor" hat, to wear to meeting. Thus equipped, I was ready for a start. John wrote that there was a packet in Boston for Portsmouth soon to return, and that I could get a passage upon that. I ascertained where this ship lay, and was ready on her day of sailing, August 9, 1781, taking with me something to eat, for I had to find myself in provisions. We got under weigh and out of the harbor, but when about half way to Cape Ann the wind died away and it became perfectly calm. The ship rolled with a heavy swell, and I was as sick as Jonah was when his gourd withered away, for the sun beat down hot and I lay on the deck wishing I could die without doing violence to myself. When I arrived in Portsmouth on the following afternoon thus attired, I don't know what they thought of Dr. Goddard's brother. But John, poor as he was, had some pride, sent for a tailor, and made a barter with him for a

pair of black everlasting breeches, and in part pay gave him my leather ones. He then went to an old hatter by the name of Groward, to get him to dye my white woolen waistcoat black. The old man said he could do it as well as he dyed his hats; this was done and paid for, and I then had a black waistcoat and breeches, but to our sorrow I soon found I had a black shirt, the waistcoat blacking everything that it came in contact with. I had a little money which was saved from my chickens and dandelion money, and sometimes half a pistareen for carrying a quarter of veal to Parson Jackson, and a little from my garden in which I had cultivated cives, roots, sage, balm, tansy and wormwood, all of which I had sold for me, except some of the wormwood, which stuck fast to me, and sticks to this day.

By the terms of my apprenticeship I was to use and improve in the best manner I could in trade what little money I had scraped together and saved during my childhood, and under my brother's direction to trade in such articles as he did not deal in, and with this and what I could do by trading was to clothe myself; if insufficient, he was to make up the balance, and he was also to hear me recite Latin lessons, which I was to learn in the evenings, for we

kept the store open till very late. I carried with me a sixty-gallon claret wine cask of vinegar which was put in the hold of the vessel, and I took a box of chocolate. Unfortunately, the hoops of this old wine cask were nailed in ancient days, and some of the nails had so rusted out that the vinegar leaked through the holes, and I lost a considerable part of it. Shortly after this I concluded to send an adventure to the West Indies, and I soon found, as I thought, a pretty good opportunity by a Mr. Briard, the first mate of the fast sailing ship Ceres, owned by Mr. Woodbury Langdon. My adventure was what we then called a "joe," being eight dollars, with instructions to Mr. Briard to invest it in oranges. I believe that the man had wholly forgotten that he ever received the money from me until his return, when I went on board for the proceeds, and reminded him of it. He then said he did have it but had wholly forgotten it, but said he had on board a barrel of oranges and a pot of tamarinds which I could have. I was well pleased with my prospect, for I knew better than he did what I could do with it, though the whole could not have cost him more than three or four dollars; however, I was glad to get them. The oranges cost in the West Indies but two dollars, and he said, and I verily believe,

that he took them on board to distribute among his friends on his return home without even thinking of my adventure; but it was thought best, on his saying that it only cost half the money and he would pay me the balance, to request him to keep the balance for his trouble. I did so, and we were both well satisfied. I opened my barrel of oranges and found them very sound, and I retailed them at from twenty to twenty-five cents each, principally at the latter price, and my tub of tamarinds I sold whole, thirty-six pounds at twenty cents a pound. The net proceeds of my adventure were over fifty dollars, with which I clothed myself for some time. I sent other adventures, but they netted me but little.

At length my funds were exhausted, and my brother had to aid me in procuring clothes, which, indeed, were very few and cheap. He came to Boston and represented to my father the dullness of his business and the extremely hard times, and that in many stores the boys had to find not only their own clothes but their board also. My father, without saying anything to me on the subject, gave him one hundred dollars and charged it to me on account of my portion. I well knew he had a right to give me something or nothing, and though

he had given John twice the portion he gave his other children by his extra education, which he had previously told him was extra and would be charged to him, I did not deny the right, though he had said to all that when of age he should give them one hundred pounds each. I boarded with Mrs. Wingate, of whom my brother hired the shop, and compounded the medicines, attended to the sales and delivery, and often prescribed for customers. From some disagreement with Mrs. Wingate, we quitted her shop after about a year. At this time Storer had returned and was in the firm, and we hired of General Whipple a large brick store previously occupied by Spence and Sherburne, the one a Scotch merchant and the other a lawyer. They had done much business and on a large scale in this store, and I felt promoted. Our stock, both in quantity and variety, was very much increased, and on our sign was "Medicines and Groceries sold by Goddard and Storer." In addition to medicines we sold wine of many kinds, both green and dry fruit, a variety of teas (Bohea at nine shillings a pound), and kept iron and steel, and many kinds of dry goods, such as broadcloths, etc., too numerous to particularize, for our stock embraced everything generally kept for sale in the town. John



married on the anniversary of my birth, the fifth of June, when I was sixteen years of age.

As before stated, I prescribed in many common cases and such common medicines as I was perfectly acquainted with, bound up and dressed cuts and wounds, etc., so that the boys called me the "young doctor." What I most dreaded was pulverizing aloes and "sarsing" them to make hierapicra, the dust of which was very light and extremely bitter; it filled my throat, my eyes and nose, and penetrated my clothes so that it was extremely difficult to get rid of. The root, bark, etc., were much cheaper in the crude state than in the powder, therefore this was all done in the shop by me. Generally the apothecaries import in the pulverized state all that are so used, but not so with us. We used a very large iron mortar let into the top of a post that went through the floor to the bottom of the cellar, that it should not when in use shake the bottles from the shelves. The pestle weighed so exactly thirteen and a half pounds as to be used for a weight.

About this time the boys of about my standing agreed with a dancing master to open a school and wanted me to join them; but my brother felt that he was unable to pay the tuition of four dollars a quarter, and although I



had a little money it was mortgaged towards finding my clothes, and what was deficient, as I have before said, was to be made up by him. I did not go to the school.

After a long absence I was permitted to visit Boston, and came up with Captain Fernald, a cross, crabbed fellow, but I got safe to Boston and went to Brookline. My father had, I believe, then removed from his former place to near where my brother Benjamin now lives.<sup>1</sup> I made him a visit and got ready to go back again, but as it often happens that two of a trade cannot agree, the two captains, Partridge and Fernald, who were the only regular coasters between Portsmouth and Boston, and often came in collision with each other, came to open battle. Partridge flogged Fernald, being much the stouter man, but Fernald was not satisfied, and hired a negro to flog Partridge, which was accordingly done, and I believe both had their deserts. I went back to Portsmouth again, but my brother was then married, and about the time of the birth of his eldest son, John Heath, I made a visit to Brookline again never to return.

I remained at home but a short time; Benjamin had left Brookline, having broken loose

<sup>1</sup> The old Gardner or Stearns house, so-called.

from the farming business, and gone to Boston to the store of Messrs. William and Josiah Brown, gentlemen of honor and high standing, and lived with the junior partner, Josiah Brown, until he was of age. He there learned that Captain Amasa Davis, of the firm of Davis and Boardman, who kept a store almost opposite Mr. Brown, and had done a great deal of business with the country people, wanted an apprentice, and thought it was a good place for me. I readily accepted it, and went there to complete my apprenticeship, living with Captain Davis, for this was his title, having been captain of a vessel once to the West Indies. Here I expected to spend my time in the store, learn to keep books, and know the qualities and value of all goods, and in short all the secrets of trade, but in this I was disappointed. I was called, among other things, to work on the wharf, where I piled boards from vessels with hired men. We considered piling forty thousand boards a fair day's work, or to put on sticks twenty thousand, which we always did when not interrupted by other business. I had more to do than the hired men, of course, always taking one end of the boards and planks, attending to the placing of the foundations and driving the ties, and overseeing and laying full half of the sticks; in addi-

tion to this I had to take care of my master's horse, and feed, water, tackle and untackle him with chaise and saddle, to tend store while he ate dinner and breakfast, and to open and shut the store, etc. These innumerable things I did in addition to what was required of the day laborer. I opened the shop before he came, and Boardman would be back before the laborers' hour for eating was finished, which gave me time to eat and take care of the horse. They also kept a timber yard, and I had to make a "slip" and to attend to drawing it up and piling it; in fact, we kept lumber of all kinds. Israel Mead was the agent, but my masters furnished the funds, bought the wood, and I, with one man, corded and carted it; I always did my half of cording and loading it, but never drove the team. It is true that our whole time was not taken up in piling and sticking the boards, taking up rafts from the dock, handing up and piling the timber, and cording, loading and carting the wood, so that there were some intervals in which none of these were to be done when I was in the store where we kept some goods. All business was done by barter, no money except for a few things. If a man had pork or butter to sell and wanted logwood, copperas, chalk and a very little of cash articles, such as

rum and sugar, we could generally trade with him. I became pretty expert in cutting up and barrelling the pork, and cutting out spareribs to sell to the butcher, the legs and hams for smoking, and the lard for trying, etc. It may be well to know the prices of many things sold at that time; green clear boards twenty-six shillings per thousand, merchantable ones twenty-one, refuse of each kind half price, cordwood before September, eight, and after, nine shillings per cord, firkin butter per pound, in barter, four and a half pence, for family use five pence, best hind quarter of beef thirteen shillings and six pence per cut, New England rum one and sixpence, and molasses a pistareen a gallon, pork by the hog two and a half per pound, all these paid for in barter. During sleighing time in winter I was posted at the door to call out "What have you got to sell?" and also to stop all the countrymen returning out of town, so that if by chance they had anything unsold we might buy it low. They considered me handy with tools, therefore I had to cut and pack the pork and cooper the barrels; I also tried the lard. The end of the wharf washed away in a violent storm, and I was sent around the marshes to collect what I could of the timber and with it some additions of new, and I rebuilt the wharf with the help of

laborers. I new laid Mr. Davis's cellar floor, barn stable floor, and built a rack for the horses; and when the junior partner was married, I hewed, made and cut his gate-posts, making them from round logs, made his kneading-trough, bread-pail, clothes-horse, pudding-stick, etc., including various articles. In an old vault we found many thirteen-inch shells which were thrown in when the British left the town. They were found well charged, but not with Dupont powder that would burn; these might have been given to the laborers as a perquisite, but Mr. Davis did not give us one.

We had also a brickyard on the "Neck." The city gave permission to make bricks there upon the condition that all the holes made by digging up clay should again be filled up by the party using the clay, but I believe it was never done. We sold here burnt bricks at three dollars per thousand, and soft ones at fifteen shillings; this business, with wood at eight dollars per cord, was not found profitable, and was abandoned after one year.

The lumber business, as well as that in the store, became very dull and unprofitable, and the gentlemen in the south part of the town determined to go into navigation. They formed a company consisting of the following gentlemen

and I believe some others, to wit: Davis and Boardman, Caleb and Robert, Farrington and Williams, William and Josiah Brown, John Juliken, Peter Cunningham and Remember Preston. They purchased an old single-decked hermaphrodite brig of sixty tons and sent her to North Carolina for a cargo of naval stores, but on her return home she came near sinking, and the cause was not known until she got back. It was then found that she had an immense number of rats on board, and that they had gnawed a hole through the deck; and when the vessel was on the tack that brought that under water, she leaked so fast that she could not be kept free, and they were obliged to heave about on the other and pump her out. They finally found and stopped the hole and she arrived safe. They discharged the cargo and the brig was hauled into a small channel where there had formerly been a creek in which the water ran across the Neck, but this run of water being stopped by raising the street, it got filled with soft mud; Deacon Davis sounded it out, put up stakes for a guide, and the brig was transported there, had a hole bored in her bottom, and she soon filled, having enough ballast to keep her down, ridding her of the rats, which swam for their lives in every direction.



The gentlemen soon sold this vessel; for notwithstanding she brought upwards of six hundred barrels of stores, and they sold the tar at a dollar and a quarter the barrel, they made a losing voyage. They still clubbed together, but I am not quite certain that Messrs. W. & J. Brown were concerned. The others purchased a brig called the "Juno," about a hundred and fifty tons, built on the western side of Boston, and it was so great an undertaking that they added to their concern William Marshall, a gentleman of undoubted wealth, and sent down to Cape Cod for a respectable and experienced captain by the name of Noah Stoddard. They loaded her principally with white oak staves and plank and sent her to London (Liverpool at that time being but a small slave-dealing place hardly worth notice), and on her return she called at the Isle of Wight and took in for return cargo a superior quality of salt, in large lumps nearly as large as a half barrel, very white and nice; this was not sold, but divided among the owners. This voyage also proved unprofitable, and as a part of the owners were unwilling to fit her out again, they concluded to sell her, which they did for about five hundred pounds.

Thus closed this immense commercial company; if it had continued much longer it must



have proved fatal to the interests of that part of the town.

Soon after this, I think about the year 1788, fourteen inhabitants and firms petitioned the town for the grant of 1400 feet of land, to commence at the fortification running southwestwardly on both sides of the "Neck," then called Orange Street. The grant was made of 200 feet deep on the westwardly side and on the eastwardly side to the channel, conditioned that the said petitioners should build a sea wall on the eastern side of the whole length, back it well with ballast, and fill it with mud and clay, so as effectually to stop out the tide, for previously to this at high tides they flowed quite across the Neck, put a picket fence the whole extent of the flats on the west side to break off the wind, make a post and rail fence on each side to the Roxbury line, and set out a row of elm or button-wood trees on both sides. All this was completed during my apprenticeship, Captain Davis being the agent for making the improvements. I remember the proprietors generally; Joshua Farrington, William Dall, William Bird, William Boardman, Amasa Davis, Ebenezer Dow, Benjamin Cobb, Joshua Weatherbee, Stephen Gove, Thomas Blake, John May, Robert Davis, Ephraim Thayer and Edward Blake. Upon the westerly

side the lots were laid out with 100 feet front, but upon the easterly side of the street the south line was made at a right angle 100 feet from the street and then parallel with the first lot of the grant, and from this all lots were squared on the street and down 100 feet back, thence by the first line to low-water mark. My master being treasurer and agent, I may not forget this speculation on account of the labor it afforded me, and it is introduced preparatory to giving an account of my labors.

Captain Davis soon got the wall all built by the perch of Roxbury pudding-stone, the contractors being Eben Seaver, since member of Congress, How and Cheney, and Ebenezer Goddard, at five shillings the perch, and it was backed with ballast from lighters. My master's lot was soon filled up; he had a gondola, hired a man, and I was captain of the gondola. We loaded and discharged it over the wall every day tide; sometimes I used the pickaxe and the man shovelled, sometimes he used the pickaxe and I shovelled, for it was all hard clay. In those days we had no iron shovels, but they were made of wood and shod with iron. It took about six hours to load; we began on the bank at half-ebb tide and worked until about half-flood tide, when the tide drove us off. In order to accomplish the

load, we were obliged to work as hard as we could, it being tide work, when we had perhaps an hour before the gondola would float into the wall.

My master laid the foundation of his estate in the following manner. General Lincoln, a very respectable man and formerly a Major-General in the Continental Army, well known in the Revolutionary War, had retired to his farm in Hingham, and had invested his property in eastern lands in the county of Hancock, Maine, and was hard pressed for money even for daily expenses. Passing by the store one morning on horseback, going into town, and seeing Captain Davis at the door, he stopped and wanted to borrow of him a hundred dollars only, which was readily lent to him. He felt most sensibly the favor and sought out means to repay it with interest. An insurrection or rebellion broke out in Massachusetts in the counties of Hampshire and Berkshire, headed by Daniel Shays, Luke Day, Adam Wheeler and Job Shattuck. It became necessary to send a force to quell it. Governor Bowdoin appointed General Lincoln Commander, and now it was in his power to discharge the debt of gratitude. He called on Captain Davis and offered him the office of Quartermaster-General in the expedition. Captain Davis told him that he knew nothing

of the duty which would be required of him, and if he accepted he should disappoint the General and perhaps injure the service. "Oh," said General Lincoln, "I will take care of that; what you cannot do I will; there is a Major Brown in Roxbury, who has seen much service in that line; appoint him your deputy and get some other one for a deputy to do the correspondence, keep the accounts, etc.;" which he did. Major Brown was appointed and accepted as one, and Mr. Andrew Cunningham was appointed and accepted the other. All was then completed; Captain Davis now had the title of Colonel and also the pay; he put on his blue and buff uniform and cocked hat with a monstrous cockade in it — there was no standing near it, its appearance would make the stoutest heart tremble, — thus was he inducted into office, and this great army quelled the rebellion. General Lincoln became popular and was made Lieutenant-Governor and Captain of the Castle, and as such drew payment; for as Lieutenant-Governor only he would have had none. By his influence Colonel Davis was kept in office; a Colonel's pay was something but not great; he had charge of the State ordnance magazines, and had nominally to visit the garrison at Castle Island, for which he must of course have a boat,

and with the boat he must have men, etc.; all these were subjects of charge, though I believe the boat and men were afterwards dispensed with.

I lived with him about six months after I was of age. He invited me to stay, saying that he would rather have me than anyone else and would give as much. I replied that I would stay until I could find some way to commence business for myself, and he might give me what he pleased. Finding that I was no nearer business by staying there, I concluded to go home and try to prevail on my father to assist me in some way, either by advancing me some capital or becoming security for me if I could hire it. The Colonel asked me what he should give me, and I told him what he pleased. He handed me \$36.00, which was \$6.00 a month, and asked me if I was satisfied with it. I told him my object was not simply wages but to look out for business, and I was satisfied with whatever he chose to give me. He then handed me \$12.00 more, making \$8.00 a month. I then felt rich, for I was able to pay money borrowed of my brother Benjamin to pay some small necessary expenses, for I came from Portsmouth destitute, as John had my all and something more in anticipation of my hundred pounds. My mother occasionally gave me a few shillings. The terms on which I went to



live with Captain Davis were that he should find me victuals and clothes, but this did not seem to include buckles for shoes and knees, then generally worn, sleeve buttons, pocket handkerchiefs, neck cloths, etc.; these in four years amounted to nearly all my wages, but I was able to repay and did it. The most cruel part of my apprenticeship was that they would never allow me but one clean shirt a week, and frequently, after taking up rafts and boards and timber, the former from the dock and wharf and the latter frequently rolling in the raft so as to throw me overboard, I was as wet as a drowned rat, and for some months in summer I seldom went to bed dry except on Sunday nights. This was cruel, but I had no remedy and no friend to apply to for redress.

My father was desirous of having all his children brought up farmers. The first-born son was sent to college at Cambridge with the intention of making him a clergyman. Being disappointed in this, he was unwilling to have either of the others go to college without giving a positive promise that he would be a minister. When any one expressed a desire to follow any other business than farming, he would propose that of a carpenter, tanner, currier, or blacksmith, and thus in some measure he appeared to consult the

inclination of his children, but he never was willing that any one should be educated or in any way qualified to be a merchant. My father consented, it is true, that I might go to college conditioned that when I came out I would promise to be a minister, but this I could not do, for I was otherwise determined, and he would not permit me to follow my own inclination in choosing the kind of business I was desirous of pursuing when of age. I believe my disposition was to be steady and honest, but not being able to pursue the kind of business most suited to my feelings, was never satisfied. I presume my father thought it a freak of childhood and was not willing to gratify me, believing that I was not qualified for trade or for anything but a farmer; and for that I know I never was and never will be qualified, as my constitution of body then was, and probably would have continued to be had I remained on the farm at home.

Accordingly, after leaving Captain Davis, I went home to see if I could not in some manner induce him to do something by way of assistance to me. Brother Benjamin about this period had commenced business by the assistance of our father and Mr. John Lucas. Mr. William Livermore had previously kept in Mr. Lucas' store and had been assisted by him in stocking



it; but partly through incapability, partly by negligence, and perhaps more from the dreadful distress of the times, he had become insolvent, and on examination by Mr. Lucas concluded to stop where he was. Mr. Lucas attached all the property and finally came into possession of it; I believe it was conveyed to him by appraisement and consisted mostly of remnants and of spirits and other West India goods. They lay for a time in the store, and I do not know whether Benjamin took the goods at the first appraisement or had them appraised again, but I believe he took them as Mr. Lucas received them from Livermore. What sum my father furnished him I never knew, but believe a hundred pounds, as he had stated he would give to each. This happened a little after Daniel Shays' Rebellion. Soon after this business revived and these goods rose a little in value, which was favorable to Benjamin's interest. I mention these things to show that Benjamin had left home and my turn for aid had arrived if any was to be afforded.

I heard repeatedly that my father had said that if I commenced business I should surely fail; these impressions were so strong in his mind that I thought he considered anything he should advance to me would be a total loss, and it was under these discouraging impressions that

he came forward to do anything. Times had been and continued to be hard, laborers had worked for twenty-five cents a day and found themselves, and my father stated that in assisting Samuel and Joseph it was rendered more easy by their taking many things he had on hand and could spare, and even these he did not advance until they were nearly twenty-two years of age. I told him these things generally would not be useful to me any further than what they would bring if sold; I could do nothing else with hay, carts, horses, oxen, plows, chains, potatoes, etc., but anything which he chose to give me would be thankfully received.

He inquired particularly respecting my views, and I explained all to him as well as I could. I knew but little, only what I found out by the purchases of coasting captains, which amounted to this: they wanted everything but could pay for only the necessaries of life; some things they must have. He said he had but very little money and perhaps no credit, and he would not mortgage his farm to get it. I wanted him to let me have as was convenient for him to the amount of seventy pounds, to which my portion was reduced by his having given John thirty pounds of it, in such articles as he could spare, and to be security for a hundred pounds more if it could

be procured on his or my credit, and told him that I would not eat another's bread or spend another's property. My mother interceded for me, though she said she expected I would lose the whole, fail, and return home. I was without the education necessary for any business, they had no confidence in me, and so much was said that I had but little in myself, though I had determined to buy as cheap as I could and to sell nothing for less than it cost, and [was also determined to live on my own earnings and not another's. I was so anxious that it worried my mother much, and she would often say: "Don't be so impatient; something will turn up by and by." "Perhaps so, ma'am," I would reply, "but not until I turn it up."

I had determined to go eastward but knew little about it, and had no idea of the distances to different places or how they were situated. I had seen coasting-vessels from different ports, but it seemed as though the east was but one spot; I had no idea of the extent of the shore of our eastern country and expected to meet everyone that I had previously seen from there. But one thing I was correct in, and that was that the people wanted everything, that nothing came amiss, and that they had but little to pay for them, no credit, and none were worthy of it. The

people would promise their first earnings, but if new supplies arrived which their fair words could not command, the first-fruits of their labor were given for them.

My father at length exerted himself and succeeded in hiring money (of some of his neighbors) on my notes with his security, of the following persons in Brookline: Mr. Benjamin White, thirty pounds; Mr. John Heath, thirty pounds; Mr. Dunn, thirty pounds; and Mrs. Ann White, thirty pounds. This was late in the winter and before the harbors of the eastern country were open. My father bought some Indian corn of Joseph, who then was on what was formerly called the Sewall farm, which previously to his hiring it was cultivated by Captain Campbell. He gave Joseph three shillings a bushel for his corn and I paid interest on this for one year, when my father paid for it out of my portion. He also put up some middle pieces of salt pork, a pot of hog's lard, a cask of vinegar, and some corn, so that in all hired and bought on credit I had furnished for me 170 pounds lawful money, equal to \$566.66. This was my whole capital, and considered by others as lost, and with this I purchased sundry articles of various persons. I bought some yellow corn at two and sevenpence per bushel, and had it put into fish barrels fit



# Account of Cash &c. delivered my Son Nathaniel Goddard

Cash white and Apprentice £ 30<sup>00</sup>:-

19<sup>00</sup> 3<sup>00</sup> for Dr. from Benj Goddard 51<sup>00</sup>:-

15<sup>00</sup> for Dr from do 16<sup>00</sup> 10<sup>00</sup>:-

2 Barrell midlings Pork at £3. 6<sup>00</sup> 8<sup>00</sup> 6<sup>00</sup> 13<sup>00</sup> 4<sup>00</sup>:-

29<sup>00</sup> Hogst 2<sup>00</sup> 14<sup>00</sup> 6<sup>00</sup>:-

44 Barrell Corn 6<sup>00</sup> 12<sup>00</sup>:-

£ 111<sup>00</sup> 15<sup>00</sup> 10<sup>00</sup>:-

One hundred pounds of which I  
mean to return in part of portion

100<sup>00</sup>:-

Balance due £ 11<sup>00</sup> 15<sup>00</sup> 10<sup>00</sup>:-

John Goddard

One Year Interest on the Amount  
of the Corn which was received of

Joseph Goddard

7<sup>00</sup> 11<sup>00</sup>:-

Balance due 12<sup>00</sup> 3<sup>00</sup> 9<sup>00</sup>:-







for packing alewives, white corn of Colonel Patton at the foot of Roxbury Meeting-House Hill at two pistareens a bushel, and I also bought transiently some Indian meal, of Captain Nathaniel Curtis one hogshead of best retailing molasses at a shilling and twopence halfpenny per gallon and one firkin prime family butter at five shillings a pound. A little previous to this time almost all goods had risen. I bought of Mr. Lowder an assortment of tinware, such as lamps, tin pots, pint dippers, gallon, two-quart and one-quart pots, teapots, etc., some pigtail tobacco at ten cents a pound, some yard-wide tow cloth at a shilling and sixpence a yard, a few barrels of New England rum at a shilling and sixpence a gallon, hard bread, some men's and women's shoes, Bohea tea, pewter, shot, musket-balls, some salt, a little cotton, some flax, boots, and a set of weights and scales, dry measures, scale beams, etc., etc. For my own use I bought of Elisha Chamberlain near Frog Lane a swingle-tow mattress and two blankets, and I left about sixty pounds in the hands of Benjamin, who agreed to invest it for me in such articles as I should send for by the return of the vessel.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Articles of co-partnership between the brothers, dated April 1, 1790, (original still preserved) provide that "the business shall be transacted in the following manner, *viz.*: said Benjamin Goddard to keep a store at Boston and transact business under the firm of Benj<sup>n</sup> Goddard and said

I had looked out for a vessel and found one, a sloop called the "Prudence," of Boston, captain William Young, mate John Rush, cook, steward, boy and all hands, an odd fellow by the name of House. Young was half Frenchman and half Yankee and lived in a wooden house built by himself on a small estate adjoining Hartt's Shipyard, now Constitution Wharf; on this estate the Constitution frigate was built. In order to load, the sloop was hauled round to Vernon's Wharf, now a part of Union Wharf lately owned by me; here I put my goods on board, paid Vernon the wharfage and got ready to embark. The sloop was loaded principally by Edward H. Robbins, afterwards Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts. This gentleman had a store at Machias, kept by a very worthy young man by the name of Harris, a brother to Rev. Thaddeus Harris late of Dorchester, and also had two townships of land in Passamaquoddy upon the river Schoodic.<sup>1</sup> One of these was called Robbins-town, nearly or exactly opposite St. Andrews. Here he had a saw-mill upon a little stream where he sawed lumber in the fall and spring, the wet seasons of the year, and near this he had another

Nathaniel Goddard to keep a store in Passamaquoda (*sic*) and transact business under the firm of Nathaniel Goddard" with equal division of profits and losses.

<sup>1</sup> Plantation No. 4.

store which he supplied. This last was kept by Mr. Porter, brother of the late William Porter of this town and of Jonathan Porter of Medford, also deceased.

The "Prudence" was a chestnut-wood vessel of about forty tons, built in Connecticut, about four and a half feet deep in the hold and built for shoal water. Her planks were but one and a half inches thick, and not a tree-nail in her. These planks were spiked to her timbers, but these things were not known at the time by any of the passengers, and we thought Captain Young a great coward. We sailed on the 28th day of March, 1789, for the eastward; Machias was to be our first port. My stores were principally hard ship-bread, very coarse, and a junk bottle of molasses, and I believe my mother put up a little cake. Our passengers were Nathaniel Robbins, brother to the Lieutenant-Governor, Theodore Lincoln, son of General Lincoln of Hingham, Nathaniel Hobart of Abington and son to the Squire of that town, and Phineas Bruce. Mr. Lincoln went to take charge of his father's township on "Dennie's River," Mr. Hobart's father gave him part of an adjoining township,<sup>1</sup> and Mr. Robbins, assisted by his bro-

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Aaron Hobart was the original proprietor of plantation No. 10.

ther, went trading: all had been down the year before.

We had a tolerable time along, but at every squall of wind or when it freshened much Rush stood at the halyard and Young ordered him to let the mainsail run, for he was afraid to carry sail upon her. However, we got to Mount Desert in about four days. I had been very sick and persuaded them to set me ashore on the island, for I could eat nothing on board. I took with me some hard bread, the bottle of molasses, and a tin pint pot; finding a run of water, I sat down by it, soaked my bread, mixed some molasses in the pint pot of water and made what they called "switchell." I ate and drank and was refreshed. Towards evening it was proposed to go on shore at Cranberry Island and get some hasty pudding and milk. I had earned nothing and hesitated about going, but at length I concluded to go, and we went to the house of a man named Sam Stanley. They made some Indian hasty pudding and furnished some milk, and all ate heartily but me; I was a little sick from my passage down, and everything was so dirty that I did not succeed very well and went on board again. At length the wind became fair and we proceeded on across Blue Hill Bay, entered Moose Pecky<sup>1</sup> Reach

<sup>1</sup> Mooseabec.

and came to anchor near a kind of house for transient entertainment for sailors kept by a man by the name of Beals.

We left as soon as wind and tide would permit, proceeded and arrived at Machias. The inhabitants were in almost a starving condition. Most of the goods were consigned to Mr. Harris, Mr. Robbins's agent here. He had no occasion to take money into his store, as every man wanted and the price was no objection, — his pork that cost \$8.00 per barrel was bought at \$16.00, and beef that cost \$6.00 was delivered as fast as possible at \$12.00; his rule was to sell at 100% on the cost, and there was no lack of purchasers. Their promises were taken to pay in boards, the first that were sawed.

The mills were owned in shares and divided by days; one man would have the right for one day, another for two, and so on to three or four days, and when their turn came they sawed their own logs; but it often so happened that when the debtor's turn came round some fresh arrival of provisions would happen, and the first boards must go for more provisions or they could not saw. In this way the first creditor would not perhaps get his pay for a year, and each creditor must be present or have his man to seize the boards as soon as taken from



the saw to put into the sluice, and to raft them at the end of the sluice; it was seldom that collections were made much faster than to pay the daily expenses.

I was beset on every side for my goods at any price; they told me that was the mode of selling and that I never should sell my goods unless I did as others did. I told them that promises were but as wind, and that I must have something substantial with which I could buy more goods or I would keep what I had; I did not sell a penny's worth. As soon as Harris's goods were landed we proceeded to "Quoddy," leaving Mr. Bruce there. We landed at "West Quoddy" Sunday morning, went in at about high water and came to anchor waiting for flood-tide to go up the river. Mr. L. Frederick Delesdernier,<sup>1</sup> a Swiss, came on board the sloop and asked Captain Young if he had any meal, rum, molasses, pigtail tobacco, etc. on board, and, being answered in the affirmative, wished to have some. Captain Young applied to me, but I told him it was Sunday and I could not trade on that day. He said that at young flood he must get under weigh and go up the river. Mr. Delesdernier

<sup>1</sup> Postmaster at the "Narrows" and later Collector of Customs. Mr. Albert Gallatin had passed a part of the preceding summer with Delesdernier, going from there to Machias, where he kept school during the following winter. N. G.



overheard and replied that "there was no Sunday in five fathoms of water, the vessel was going up the river and they were starving to death." I told him that my weights, scales and measures were all packed up, that my molasses was not tapped, and further that I did not know the prices and was not prepared to sell. Mr. Delesdernier said they had but one price for these things there, that meal was always a dollar a bushel, molasses fifty cents a gallon, New England rum fifty cents a gallon, and pigtail tobacco twenty-five cents a pound, etc. I thought these pretty good prices, and he took molasses, rum and pigtail tobacco, tea, etc., to a considerable amount, paying for all in silver dollars. An old Scotchman named Colin Campbell, having a brig lying in the cove near by on the British side, came on board for some stores for his vessel, she being destitute of small stores, and inquired the prices, took a little meal and molasses, and chose to let his vessel depart as she was rather than give my prices.

At low water we hove up our anchor and proceeded up the river to Robbinstown, where Captain Young had goods to land for Mr. E. H. Robbins at his store, then kept by a young man named Porter, brother of William and Jonathan Porter, and the previous year by Nathaniel

Robbins. Mr. E. H. Robbins owned the township, sawmill, etc. I could get no place to land mine, not even a log barn. At last Mr. John Brewer, brother to my brother Samuel's wife, and a trader here, said I might put them in his store until I got a place to remove them to, conditioned that I should not sell any of them while in his store. I thanked him, but I knew this would not answer my purpose; I must sell, but none of the traders wanted my goods there, for I had a better assortment than they and if I sold I should get what little money there was.

Mr. Nathaniel Robbins, for he was the only passenger left, went with Mr. Brewer into a store, and in a short time came to me with Captain Young and said there was an island about fifteen miles below where I should be likely to do better than at any other place in the Bay; it was called Moose Island and in the spring there was considerable business done there, fishermen resorting there through the summer, and that I could take such articles as they wanted and take their fish, oil, etc. in payment. Mr. Robbins said also that there was a store on the point of Moose Island that he thought I could hire to put my goods in, for it was never used in the winter, and that Captain Young would take my goods on deck and land them for me there. He added:

“Here is a man, Captain Some, who will row you down in a skiff reasonably.” I turned to him and asked him what I must give him to take me down and bring me back again; he replied “a bushel of corn.” I concluded it was not too much for him to find a skiff and row me thirty miles, and I agreed to give it to him. This Some went from Cape Ann, having had to flee for his life; he was a refugee, and when living at Cape Ann had piloted the British fleet under Commodore Mowatt into Gloucester, which they took and almost destroyed, and he never dared to go back again. He rowed me down and I landed, went to see the owner of the store, and he went with me and showed it to me. It was a long building, say 36 feet long and 12 feet wide, with two partitions making three rooms about 12 feet square. He asked me \$12.00 a month for each room; it was a most enormous price, but he said he always let it at that price to fishermen who came down in little fishing-jiggers to put their stores, etc. in while fishing, and could not let me have it at less. I stated that they hired only while they could make their fare, but that I should probably want it some months and perhaps more than one room. He finally agreed to let me have one at \$8.00 a month. I concluded to take it and returned to

Robbinstown. Captain Young hoisted a barrel of corn on deck which we found had lain in the water about eight or nine inches deep, and on examination found all my corn wet in the same manner; I presume Young knew it before, which made him so accommodating. However, Some made no objection, took his bushel of half-wet corn, Young filled the hold of his vessel with boards, packed all my goods on deck, and carried them down to the Island, landing them in the twelve-foot store where I was to live and store my goods. Captain Young lent me a gun, a "king's arm;" I had powder and balls, and he lent me a pewter spoon and a jack-knife. I felt dull enough alone in the building with nothing to eat but hard bread and Indian meal; my cooking utensils were not very good, and I did not feel that I could afford to buy wood, though it was but a dollar a cord.

My building was alone and not in sight of any other; it stood upon high-water mark fronting Harbor Delue<sup>1</sup> in Campello. The distance from the fireplace was so small and the rest of the room so occupied by goods not opened that I was obliged to open my door from the passageway to lay my mattress through in the night, half in the passageway and half in the goods room. I had

<sup>1</sup> De Lute.

no sheets or pillows but had two blankets; the weather was very cold and the sides of the building very open, the cracks between the logs admitting the snow, and although winter had passed we had many snow squalls when the snow blew all over my bed, these happening often until May. My mattress was very hard and full of lumps, and I had to keep my outside clothes on a great part of the time to keep me from perishing. I picked up driftwood about the shore, but being saturated with salt water it was hard to make it burn. I concluded to cook for myself, for I could not afford to pay board, and indeed if I could my stores would not have been safe alone in my opinion; for after the peace of 1783 all the disbanded British troops from New York and refugees were in that place and neighborhood, and we had the relics of the disbanded army of Indians and a cargo of convicts from our friends the English.

I established rules for my living and came to this resolution respecting my diet: I had been there but a few days before I bartered for some dry pollock fish and therefore had wherewithal to keep me from starvation; I had also coarse ship-bread, Bohea tea, molasses, Indian meal and fat pork. Sometimes a lean piece of salt pork could be had from my barrel, from which I retailed; this

the fishermen did not value and would not buy, as they wanted the fat to try out so as to have what they called "fish dip;" that is, they would boil the fish and potatoes and dip the fish into the fat and eat. I stinted myself to one dried pollock a fortnight, which was enough to relish my bread, and as it was an article of remittance to Boston, I was thus sparing of it.

In the morning I made a fire, went about ten or twenty rods to a spring, got some water and filled my tin teapot with it and set it on the coals made of driftwood, the ashes of which looked like red iron rust. I boiled the water, put into it a little Bohea tea and boiled it again, poured it out into a flat tin pint pot and sweetened it a little with molasses. By this time the tin teapot and pint pot had made the tea almost as black as ink, but I cared not for this; iron was wholesome, I knew what was the cause, and being a bit of an apothecary would not be poisoned. At noon, if I took anything, it was a little bit of pollock fish and hard bread, but generally I had but two meals a day. I made some hasty pudding for supper in this way, for I had no sieve: I filled my tin pint pot with water, set it on the coals and made the water boil, then took Indian meal in my hands, scattered it through between my fingers and stirred it about with my pewter spoon,



but being always in a hurry I seldom had it half boiled; it tasted like what I used to feed my father's chickens and hogs with when I fed them, which we then called chicken meat. If I had earned anything by sales of goods during the day I used a little molasses upon it; if not, I frequently ate it without and it went down. Thus I ate, and drank cold water from the spring.

I slept with a loaded musket by the side of my bed, expecting every night an attempt to rob me. I was alone in the building and out of sight of any other, so that I had to depend upon myself and my gun. I escaped what generally comes under the head of robbery, but there was larceny enough while I was selling off my goods, my customers being refugees, disbanded British soldiers, escaped gallows-men, Indians, etc. The first inquiry was "Do you trust any?" My answer was "No." "Then we cannot buy, for we can get no fish now; we will give you in payment the first fish we catch, or our lumber when we can get it down, or furs when they return from hunting, and I don't know but we must starve to death. What are you going to take in payment?" I replied, "I will take at its value anything but broken crockery-ware and broken glass bottles." They answered: "Well, then we may do."



I had fixed prices for everything I took in payment and for every article of my goods, and was as firm as the laws of the Medes and Persians, except when they rose considerably or fell in price, when I was to sell or replenish my store; then and when I varied my prices it was for all. I never varied one cent from my asking prices for the seven years I was there; they were for everyone the same and for every article received in payment the same, so that the questions "Will you not give more?" or "Will you not sell for less?" were not asked. This saved a great deal of trouble and all were satisfied and well pleased. I took in payment cod fish, dried or green, salt or fresh, and salted them myself, the same with pollock, haddock and herrings, fish oil, blubber, shingles, old wrought iron, cast iron, boards, timber, both pine and hard wood, clapboards, cedar shingles, muskets, swords and cutlasses, old pewter, lead, muskets and parts of muskets, sometimes with and sometimes without locks, pistols, old copper and brass, furs of all kinds, hides and kip skins, moose hides and moose meat, feathers, wood, grindstones, butter, cheese, etc., meaning everything that offered. In the meantime I took a memorandum of everything inquired for that I had not on hand, and such as I had but which

were not likely to last until I could get another supply.

I soon chartered a "pink stern" schooner<sup>1</sup> called the "Polly," John Maguire, Master, to go to Boston, carry up my remittance, and bring down goods to replenish the old and add to the new stock; but he made haste but slowly. I gave him \$30.00 for the trip and he victualled and manned her. He generally took a junk of pork and some potatoes if he could get them, and seldom anything else but water, calculating on catching fish on his passage. This vessel was, I think, of fourteen tons, and when she returned it gave great general joy. If enough meat or other necessary articles did not come to supply the wants of all, I made a distribution of the whole in proportion to their families, that no one should be destitute who had enough to pay for them with.

It soon became rumored far and wide, from Moose Head Reach to the head of the Bay of Fundy, that a trader had come down to Moose Island to stay the year round<sup>2</sup> who would take anything and everything for his goods and would furnish you with everything wanted; if he had it

<sup>1</sup> These boats are still to be seen on the Nova Scotia coast and are known as "pinkies."

<sup>2</sup> The census of 1790 shows the name of Nathaniel Goddard as an inhabitant of Township No. 8 (now Lubec and Eastport).

not on hand that he would send for it by the first vessel. A multitude collected on the beach, fixing their triangles to hang their pots for cooking, for they both fried and boiled in the same pot. They came from Annapolis, Digby and various other ports across the Bay of Fundy and from its mouth, even from Cobogate, from St. John, Great and Little Dipper Harbors, Harbor de Lute and Harbor Lajong, Campobello, Mackagodawic,<sup>1</sup> Dicketyquash, Schoodic, St. Andrews, Dennie's River, Cobscook, Grand Manan, Little Harbor, Machias, etc. These came on the beach and went out fishing in the daytime in their boats.

As I was frequently obliged to go out of the store to weigh fish, measure oil, etc., there not being room within the store, I every time turned all out and locked the door until I returned, and it was so well understood that it caused me no trouble, for when a man said that he had some fish to be weighed or oil to be measured, the store was cleared in a minute.

In a short time it became necessary for me to move my sleeping-place up aloft; I had slats nailed across the corner of the store to serve as a ladder to mount up through a scuttle under the roof, there being some loose boards laid

<sup>1</sup> Magaguadavic.

across the beams which served as a floor, the roof being very flat and rising about three or at most four feet above this floor. I bought a few feathers and sent to Boston for a tick and made a tolerable bed and bolster;—this was put in the centre and we were obliged to creep in and undress sitting down. I say “we” because my brother Abijah at that time came down, and I was desirous that he should be made as comfortable as possible; but be assured there was not much comfort there. The weather had grown warm, and being directly under the roof we suffered no more from the cold that season, nor indeed until the next autumn. As soon as fish came I could get herring from the weirs, and amongst my old wrought iron I found the top or grate of an old-fashioned chafing-dish. This answered well for a gridiron. I soaked some small pieces of salt pork from the barrel I retailed from, and when freshened a little broiled upon my gridiron; I also broiled my herrings upon it, [and so] we lived, moved and had a being.

I frequently had occasion to go to St. John, about twenty leagues up the Bay, St. Andrews, Cobscook, Machias, etc., for various purposes, and when the winds and sea were so high that I could not go round Point Lapoe<sup>1</sup> as was often

<sup>1</sup> Lepreau.

the case, for the sea ran as high and the danger was as great as it is said to be in the Bay of Biscay, I was obliged to haul the boat, a fourteen-foot open yawl, on the shore, make her fast, and go into the woods, break off spruce boughs to lay down for my bed for the night, and there wait for moderate weather to go round the Point.

One day, early in the spring, and soon after I reached Moose Island, the day being very unpleasant, rainy, cold and windy, I espied a boat coming, about two miles distant, rising over and pitching down between the combing waves. It landed, and the passengers came into the store almost frozen and chilled through; some ran to the fire while others detained me to trade, amongst them Captain Charles Storrow. I waited on the company, bought some old cast and wrought iron, some old pewter, an old gun, and a very handsome brass-barrelled horseman's pistol, very beautifully ornamented, which the captain had used in the West Indies when he was lieutenant of a company of horse; this made a convenient addition to my armament. When the trade was over and they had bought all they could pay for, they departed.

At this time I was very poor, but ventured to buy about half an acre of land bordering on the beach, and built a small store, about 30 by 20

feet and about a third of a mile from my first location. It was one and a half stories high, set on the beach at about high-water mark, and banked up toward the beach to keep out the frost. I got some bricks from Boston and had a tolerable chimney, partitioned the building off each side of the chimney, reserving at one end a strip about ten feet wide to live in and a chamber over it to sleep in, with a fireplace on each side, one in the store part and one in the house. I found an old man, Philip Stanton, who had been a mason tender before he came into that country, and he thought he could build the chimney if I would lay it out. I laid out the abutment for a foundation on the beach, and sprung an arch by means of a rough arch board that I made from one abutment to the other. Then Stanton exclaimed, "Odds fakens, rabbit my cat skin if I know how to build an ash hole or oven well." I told him I guessed we could do it, so when we got up to the hearth I undertook to lay out the ash hole and fireplace, built about five bricks high and much in the form of half an egg split lengthwise with the curved side upwards and the smaller side towards the room; then I filled it with sand, crowned it over like the roof of an oven, and then arched it over with bricks laid in mortar. I continued on until



I got thickness enough for the roof and the bottom of the oven, and then laid out the oven and built it much like the ash hole, but I had to make a flue to lead into the chimney to convey off the smoke; this done, I completed my oven. "Odds fakins, rabbit my cat skin if you have n't done it," said he again; "I can now finish it."

In front of my store was an abutment to keep the sea from breaking against the house or store; about forty feet distant from this I had built a pier or "cob" wharf about thirty feet square; for this I gave \$30.00; the frame of my house cost \$35.00. At high water at the end of the pier I had at common tides twelve feet of water; from this pier to the abutment I made a bridge about forty feet long with two string-pieces of spruce supported by posts underneath and boarded over on the top, so that a coasting vessel could come to the end of the wharf and discharge my goods or load with fish, as occasion required, all of which were passed over this bridge. I floored over the pier with spruce poles, laid in ballast sufficient to keep it from washing away, and smoothed it off with gravel. Above this pier and under the bridge I have seen a halibut that would weigh fully one hundred and fifty pounds, and upon this as well as upon other beaches there were one or two spells in the season when



the pollock were running in close to the shore after shrimp. Men, women and children would wade into the water, perhaps not more than knee-deep, and with a tool they called a "pew," which had a prong something like a pitchfork with one prong, they would pitch them out on the beach in great quantities, and where they had no tool would throw them out with their hands, sometimes getting thirty quintals before the pollock would quit the shore. I believe that the pollock, instead of being after shrimp, were after squid. They came ashore in this manner: first the shrimp, then the herrings apparently after them, then the squid after the herrings, then the pollock after the squid, and fishermen, women and children after the pollock. The shrimp or herring have no particular weapon of defense; the former can only save themselves by getting into shoal water, and they so often had to use this precaution that sometimes they were thrown ashore by the surf and billows, there to perish; especially would this happen with the ebbing of the tide, so that for perhaps a mile the beach would appear to be red with them. The squid were provided with a kind of defense, which they used very dexterously; when upon their guard and pursued by their enemy and nearly overtaken, they ejected a black sub-

stance apparently into the eyes of their pursuers, which so clouded the water for a considerable space round them it could not be seen through; at that instant they would dart aside into clear water unperceived by their enemy, and escape.

In front of my place and about two miles distant at the nearest point lay Campobello, and about three miles away Harbor de Lute, a good harbor except in a northwest wind. Campobello Island was about nine miles long and lay east of Moose Island, now Eastport; on its east side was the Bay of Fundy, its southerly end made one side of West Quoddy Narrows, and round its northerly end was the great ship channel, Harbor La Long, Indrap and a number of other small islands. Nearly north of my store was Deer Island which reached nearly to St. Andrews, and between this latter island and Eastport is the River Schoodic, now incorrectly called the St. Croix.<sup>1</sup> Opposite the southern end of Campobello, which makes one end of West Quoddy Narrows, lay Lubeck, making the other side of said Narrows. Between Eastport and Seward's Neck is Cobscook River running up to and around and through the falls; here the river parts and one branch runs up to Denniesville and is called Dennie's River.

<sup>1</sup> Appendix C.

A MAP AND CHART OF PASSAMAQUODDY AND MACHIAS

*By Benjamin R. Jones, 1810*





A MAP AND CHART OF PASSAMAQUODDY AND MACHIAS  
By Benjamin R. Jones, 1810



From these branches comes almost all the timber that is shipped from Eastport and Campobello Islands, there to be shipped as the parties may wish, to wit: that which goes from Campobello is English lumber and shipped in English vessels to English ports, but that landed on Moose Island or anywhere on the American side may be shipped as American lumber or it may be rafted to the English side and shipped as English lumber. In the course of the first year my property had increased about a thousand dollars and my family to seven men. Immediately after moving into our store, being more busy than I usually was, I could not find time to cook, and hired at first an old Carolinian named Moses Bruce, and afterwards a woman, and sometimes a little girl, to cook for us.

The Indians were very troublesome, and although I treated them in all respects the same as the whites, sold to them as cheap and gave them as much for their skins and furs, yet they were always jealous and deceitful and I frequently had squabbles with them. I presume the transient traders had cheated them all they could, which made it difficult for me to deal with them. Soon after I first landed an Indian came ashore in his canoe in the dead of the night on the ebb tide with his canoe pretty well loaded; he let



it ground, came up to the door alongside of my bed and rapped. I asked, "Who 's there?" He said, "Indian wants some back alewitch (English rum)." I opened the door, let him in and waited on him. He also wanted something else, enough to buy a musquash skin, and told me he would not pay me unless I would help him carry his canoe down the beach. I suspected that as soon as he got his canoe afloat he would pay me under the paddle and would attempt to paddle off; I was fully determined that he should not, but I went to help the creature down with his canoe, and surely he meant to paddle off. I told him he should not go and held on to the canoe; he found it in vain to try to get away, for I seized hold of his musquash skins and made my selection before I let him go. I had been well instructed how to treat them, never to flinch or give up a little, for if I did they would go all lengths. I had no further difficulty with any of them for some time. During the spring, however, I was at work making hand-barrows in my flake-yard — which was back of the store, and from it down to the water was a steep passageway — [and] had with me a drawing-knife, axe and auger, with materials for the purpose. A young Indian named Francis Joseph, Jr., son of their gover-

nor,<sup>1</sup> came in and was guilty of conduct which he knew I had forbidden. I caught him by the collar, and with a pretty harsh jerk slung him down this passageway and over the abutment into the water. His uncle, Peter Joseph, came to me to resent it. I ordered him down the hill; he would not go, and I took the drawing-knife and with the back of it struck him pretty hard. He got mad and drew his knife to stab me; I caught up the axe and gave him such a blow as soon sent him down the hill; this ended the scrape.

In the course of the summer I was called away from the flake-yard one day by my brother Abijah, one of the most peaceable beings in the world. He sent up to let me know the store was full of folks, and there was a noisy, drunken Indian so troublesome that he could not wait upon the customers, and wished me to come down. I went and took the rascal and pitched him out of the door down six or seven steps quite on to the wharf; afterwards, as I was standing in the doorway talking with some customers, among them Captain Josephus Bradford and a very powerful man from Dennie's River named Bela Stoddard, the Indian crept along unperceived, seized

<sup>1</sup> Francis Joseph Neptune, commonly called Governor Francis, was of material aid to the American cause during the Revolutionary War, in keeping the Indians friendly and thereby saving the eastern settlements to the United States. — Kilby's *History of Passamaquoddy and Eastport*.

hold of my legs, tripped me up and pulled me down the steps. Captain Bradford saw it, struck him and knocked him nearly a rod; Bela Stoddard then struck him and knocked him back again, and between them they played shuttlecock with him and bruised him almost to a pumice. A half-breed French and Indian begged for his life, and they let him take him away.

One other scene I had with a party of seven or eight, I don't know but more. They went into the room where we lived, and the cook sent to me when I was in the flake-yard and said that the Indians were stealing everything in the house. I thought it probable that she was more alarmed than she need be, and sent down Oliver Shead<sup>1</sup> to drive them out; but he came back saying they would not go and were stealing everything. I broke a spruce stick in two and took the butt end, about three and a half feet long, and went down somewhat in a hurry. I did not stop to ask questions. They saw me coming and began to decamp, and I began to belabor them as hard as I could strike, anywhere that I could hit them. I knocked some of them over the abutment, where they fell on to the beach, others I pounded until they begged heartily. I made them restore

<sup>1</sup> A Brookline boy employed by Mr. Goddard and later of the firm of Hayden and Shead, succeeding to the business in Passamaquoddy. He was Eastport's first representative to the General Court (1807).

all they had taken, as we supposed, but I found in the end that they carried off one small article. On returning to the door of the store I found one of the Indians had run and taken his gun from the canoe. He was a half-drunken fellow and raised his gun to take sight and fire at me, but a squaw near by ran and caught hold of the gun and pulled it aside, so that he had not time to fire. If he had, as I was within five rods, he certainly would have killed me. Thus ended this, the last battle I ever had with them, and I taught them better than to trouble me again. I always made them mind, never gave up to them, always dealt with them on the same terms as with white customers and taught them to respect me.

After the first year I went into co-partnership with brother Benjamin. I think it was this or the next year that Captain McGuire was cast away in the schooner "Polly" on Cape Small Point, near Portland, in Casco Bay, loaded wholly on our account. We had no insurance and lost what was on board not saved. We gave McGuire \$30.00 for this trip, and he chartered another vessel to bring down what was saved, and on this we had to pay a second freight. McGuire married the daughter of a man named Nat Clark, who had an old Jebacco<sup>1</sup> boat, pink stern, and he told McGuire he would

<sup>1</sup> "Chebacco"?

give him the boat provided he would get her repaired. He had nothing to do it with; we had no way to get our goods up or down, and I agreed to advance something to assist him. He found an old carpenter by the name of Samuel Oakes who told him that he had better make a square-sterned vessel, and this he did with the assistance of two carpenters from Campobello Island, and her stern was so spread that she was shaped like an old-fashioned heater, an irregular triangle. I never knew which end foremost she would sail best, but they masted her putting the narrow end foremost, and so she continued to be used. I loaded her with such goods as I had to make remittance with, having been collecting some all winter, and she made her voyage and returned safe.

Some time afterwards brother Benjamin sold a cargo of grindstones to Colonel John May, deliverable at Portland, where Colonel May then lived, and sent down to me to ship them, which I did. This schooner had no register but sailed under a coasting license, and therefore was not obliged to enter and clear at the Custom House, unless she had on board foreign goods to the amount of \$500.00, and the grindstones did not amount to this sum. She had got nearly up to Portland when she fell in with a U. S. Reve-



nue cutter, Captain John Foster Williams, was boarded, her papers examined, and was then permitted to pass. But John Lucas, who was on board and had formerly had a difficulty with Colonel May, stated to Captain Williams that she had no clearance and perhaps might have goods to smuggle. This induced Captain Williams to board her again and send her up to Boston for trial; she was examined and cleared and sailed again for Portland, discharged and came again to Boston. The "Abigail," for such was her name, was found not to have \$500.00 on board, and we bore the loss not of detention only and the expense, but were very much in want of the goods for return cargo.

After staying in Quoddy just seven years from the day I first left Boston, I left it for Boston in the schooner Dolphin, leaving one of the pleasantest places I ever saw. Being so near the Bay of Fundy the breezes from the water of the Bay so tempered the heat of summer as to make it comfortable, and the cold winds of winter were much softened by the breezes of the Bay, whose waters were warmed by the Gulf Stream. The eastern and western passages into the Bay were both in sight from my place, and there were several islands scattered about. On the right and left were pleasant rivers, up one of which, straight

and extended as far as the eye could reach, we could see out both passages into the Bay.

The grampus were thick, pitching out of the water, spouting, and then plunging again; codfish and pollock directly before our door between us and Campobello Island, where at the fishing season you might count a hundred boats at once hauling them in, and halibut of a very large size ran quite into shoal water. Often we saw schools of black fish, sometimes threshers and often an immense number of porpoises and seals; the Indians killed the porpoises for their oil and the seals for the oil and skins. Fishermen built weirs across the cove by driving down stakes at low-water mark, reaching up perhaps to the top of the water at half flood, and then bushes woven in from one stake to another so thick that the herring could not get through, and they would sometimes take what they estimated at three hundred barrels. A few years after I went there these weirs were suffered to be destroyed and were not repaired from the circumstance of one fisherman finding out accidentally the following secret: watching the squid on the beach, and at the same time making a fire under his triangle to cook, he perceived the herrings in immense quantities run almost on shore so that with a dip-net he could get enough bait while the



other fishermen had none. This plan was afterwards greatly improved upon by cutting sticks, splitting open the end and inserting a quantity of white birch bark, then resting one end over the bow of the boat, and when they saw the school of herrings, pushing the boat off from the shore and setting fire to the bark. The fish would come around the fire and close to the surface of the water, and in this way they would load a large boat as fast as they could dip them in, say at least a pailful at a dip. I bought, sold and packed many hundred barrels, as many barrels as I could get to fill, giving for them fresh half a dollar per barrel, measured alive, one barrel and a half for a barrel, as they shrank by salting and were packed closer.

As before stated, I left Passamaquoddy in the schooner Dolphin, Zenas Morton, Master, and arrived safe after a passage of twenty days, leaving the store and business with Colonel Lemuel Trescott,<sup>1</sup> who had come down from his place in Orangetown a year before to qualify himself for taking charge of it, and to have one-half the profits. He was a part of the noblest work of God, an honest man.

<sup>1</sup> Born in Massachusetts in 1751; a soldier of the Revolution, serving under Lafayette. He became first Town Treasurer of Eastport on its incorporation in 1798, and Collector of Customs for the district in 1811, succeeding Mr. Delesdernier. — Kilby's *History*.

This was in March, 1796. I was then in my twenty-ninth year, an old bachelor, awkward to an extreme, and unacquainted with all decent society, having been buried in the prime of life where no society existed. I never made a visit there to the house of one person either in the daytime or evening for seven years, and was pretty well qualified to be a hermit. It is true that within twenty or thirty miles there were a few persons who were civilized, but it was by chance only that I saw one of them and never came in contact with them except in business.

Unfitted for social companionship and too old to become young again, I have continued along my journey of life subject to many mortifications. Two things I have endeavored to do, to wit: to be just in my dealings and punctual in all things. But rigid justice and punctuality, I have observed, do not accord with the feelings of all in the present age, and I regret it. I will venture to record one thing, that no man ever was or will be a popular man who goes forward in one rigid course of truth and justice amongst all, friends or enemies, and disguises nothing or equivocates. It may be said that it is not proper or necessary to tell the whole truth, but I do not agree to this. It may not be proper to tell all that one thinks. If I have been of use to this

world or to individuals in it, either by precept or example, I rejoice in it and claim nothing for it; if I have been unprofitable or have injured anyone I am very sorry for it. I had in early life a kind and affectionate mother and sister (Hannah) and I have yet living a kind brother<sup>1</sup> who came forward and relieved me in my distress. Perhaps there are many who would, if they could, have aided me but had not the ability. A kind word goes far toward smoothing this rugged road of life if there do not happen to come two harsh ones after it.

The manuscript narrative ends here. Supplementing the portions relating to the business at Passamaquoddy are preserved two "waste" books, covering the period from March, 1792, to June, 1794, and the final settlement of account (original papers) on the dissolution of the partnership in 1796. Among many items which serve to illustrate the general nature of the business are several which seem to show that the brothers owned at that time in whole or in part the two trading schooners "Betsy" and "Lucy." One such item charges to Benjamin Goddard "one half of Schooner Lucy and

<sup>1</sup> Benjamin.

appurtenances £225, and one half of Schooner Lucy's cargo to Guadeloup (*sic*) £887 2" 9",'' showing an extended foreign venture for the little craft, and outcome of a single voyage amounting to nearly four times the estimated value of the vessel. Their trade was, however, for the most part coastwise between Boston and Passamaquoddy.

That Nathaniel Goddard was held in esteem by his neighbors of Passamaquoddy, and that he was a man of influence among them, is shown by the following letter accompanying a petition to the Legislature of Massachusetts, Maine being at the time a part of that State.

PASSAMAQUADY, May 26, 1797.

Mr. Nathaniel Goddard.

Sir: —

Confident as we are from personal knowledge, as well publick fame, of your Integrity and good wishes in General for our Common Country, particuler the Infant settlement of Plantation No. 8 in the Bay of Passamaquady, We have taken the liberty in behalf of the Inhabitants, To nominate and appoint you as agent to obtain Incorporation for this District.<sup>1</sup> For this

<sup>1</sup> Plantation No. 8 was incorporated into a town by the name of Eastport February 24, 1798, and included Lubec, the latter set off as a separate town in 1811.

purpose, you have herewith a Petition to the General Court, accompany'd with the Resolves of the Plantation, authenticating the same.

Although we doubt not, that your Judgement and experience, and your being on the spot, will better direct y<sup>r</sup> proceedings (to which we ultimately refer) than anything we can dictate, at so great a distance; Still it may not be improper, so far as we know to point out some hints and such Steps as may appear to us usefull to expedate and accomplish the bussiness, submitting the whole to your disposal.

We recommend in the first place, to make known the bussiness to some of your acquaintance, and persons of influence in the Senate and House, and Engage their Interest and attention in the progress. They will be the best Judges, to which House it is to be presented first. On the reading the Petition by the Speaker, a Committee will be appointed for investigation. We recommend that you endeavour such persons be chosen in both Houses, who will early attend, and make report expeditary. It must be observed in the whole of this, that the Committee and others concerned in bringing it to an Issue, must be constantly attended and called upon — to put Them in remembrance — For often without this Spurr, things are put of

to the last, consequently are liable to be thrown by, to another Session.

As the General Court does not like long and prolix Epistles, on such small matters, It is recommended, that only the Petition be presented at first, but when you attend the Committee (which must not be neglected a moment, when they are ready) The votes of the Town will be necessary to lay before them, with such other vouchers and documents verbally as may occur to you. You will please under this Head add. The low and indigent state of the people — The great difficultys, they labour under in this infant settlement — The expences and burthens they are subjected to by being so near the lines — The encroachments and insults they at times experience, and the trouble and expence in loss of time &c. which naturally falls to their lott, by adhearing to their allegiance as Citizens of the Commonwealth.

An objection may arise, in which it may be suggested by some, that the inhabitants are benefited, by the adjacency to the British settlements, In this you must be a competant Judge yourself — That it opperates very different — That the inhabitants in general (very few excepted, if any) have not any intercourse or connection in trade or otherways with them, but accidently and that trifling.



Upon the whole nothing could have induced us to apply for incorporation but mere necessity, That regulation and order might be established, and suitable officers appointed to put the Laws in execution, not as it immediatly concerns our own internal peace, but to ward against such evils, we are exposed to, by the intervention & designs of Strangers. — Our inability to discharge the smallest publick expence, or even necessary contracts among ourselves, with certainty and punctuality; demonstrates how small a claim we have to sett up for ourselves, or attempt that rank in the Commonwealth which might subject us to expence.

We are at a loss, what to say respecting a compensation for y<sup>r</sup> trouble. Our wish is, and it is our determination to use every endeavour to make satisfaction, But we dare not promise, How, or when it is to be done — You are no stranger, to the state of our finances, nor the obstructions which preponderates, in actuating the minds of credulous and ignorant persons, who are unacquainted with those rules and regulations which gives peace and security to society — whose minds are often impress'd with Chymarical suspicions, inflamed and fanned by designing interlopers and vagrants, to which our situation so much exposes us. But Sir the time

we hope is fast approaching, when everyone will se for himself through a proper medium, & a publick spirit be dissiminated through the whole, in a word That To Do Justice, Love mercy, and to walk Humbly with our God will be the Standard and rule of this Little Community —

With Sentiments of friendship and Esteem We are

Yr most obdt Hble Servts<sup>1</sup>

P. S. Request the  
patronage of Mr.  
Robbins the Speaker,  
who well knows our  
situation.

SAM TUTTLE

JOHN BURGIN

J. ALLAN

It does not appear what action, if any,<sup>2</sup> was taken by Mr. Goddard upon this petition, but it is known that the inhabitants of Passamaquoddy were later desirous of recognizing his services to the settlement by giving his name to the newly incorporated town.

That his business relations with his old neighbors did not cease is shown by a letter to his brothers John and Jonathan, dated April 9, 1799, in which he expresses his intention of shipping to Passamaquoddy a consignment of "tow-cloth" to be bought and baled in Ports-

<sup>1</sup> The original letter is in the possession of Miss Mary G. McMurtrie.

<sup>2</sup> At a town meeting held March 11, 1799, Mr. Goddard received a vote of thanks for his services.

mouth, and by the fact that he retained the ownership of one hundred acres of land on "Seaward's Neck," allusion to which is made in the settlement of the partnership accounts, and later in his correspondence.

The year after arriving in Boston from Pas-samaquoddy, to wit 1797, on the second day of May, Nathaniel Goddard was married in Boston to Lucretia Dana, daughter of Amariah<sup>1</sup> and Dorothy Dana of Amherst, Mass., born October 9, 1773, and living since her early childhood in Boston in the family of her uncle, Colonel John May.<sup>2</sup> Her own family had formerly lived in Pomfret, Connecticut; the parents were in moderate circumstances, and there were many children; accordingly when Colonel May proposed that one of these should become a member of his family circle, it was willingly acceded to, Lucretia was the one chosen, and her life thereafter until her marriage was happily passed in the home of her uncle and aunt in Boston. Of their kindness and that of their family she was always deeply sensible, and the affection on both sides was lasting and strong. Mrs. Goddard

<sup>1</sup> Amariah Dana, born May 20, 1738, died Oct. 29, 1830, a soldier of the Revolution, was with Ethan Allen at the taking of Ticonderoga.

<sup>2</sup> The invitation to his brothers John and Jonathan is dated April 25th. ". . . As much as my own it is Col<sup>o</sup> May's particular request that I make no delay in giving you Information; the Brothers, Sisters, & particular Friends of the Family's (only) will be present."

was a woman of fine personal presence, having a distinguished face and figure, and possessing traits of mind and character which peculiarly endeared her to the circle in which she moved. Her unselfish devotion to her husband during fifty-six years of married life, and to her family of eleven<sup>1</sup> children, all of whom lived to maturity, with the large hospitality for which she was so well known, confined her almost exclusively to the duties of the home, where was the peculiar sphere of the woman of those days, and in which she notably excelled. Her memory was and is tenderly 'revered by all who were privileged to know her during her long and useful life.

Colonel May lived in Orange Street, that part of the present Washington Street from Essex Street to the old British fortifications at Dover Street, and later in Ann Street at the North End, and was a man well known in public and military life.<sup>2</sup>

In his early married life Nathaniel Goddard

<sup>1</sup> Two other children were born, but died in infancy.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel John May, born November 24, 1748, commanded the First or "Boston" regiment of militia, served under the Comte de Rochambeau in Rhode Island, and is believed to have been one of the "Tea Party" at Griffin's Wharf. In 1789 he made a journey on horseback to the Muskingum Valley in the "Ohio Country" and there built the first house of what is now the city of Marietta. He was a selectman of Boston from 1804 to 1812, and an earnest advocate of a marginal road from the North End to Roxbury. Through the efforts of his son, Henry



LUCRETIA (DANA) GODDARD, WIFE OF NATHANIEL  
GODDARD

*From a miniature in the possession of Mrs. Henry S. Bush and  
Miss Mary G. McMurtrie*







BOSTON  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



lived at No. 12 Orange Street, nearly opposite the present Boston Female Asylum. In 1802, however, he bought of John Langdon Sullivan land at the southwest corner of Summer and Kingston Streets, one hundred feet on Kingston and about ninety-one on Summer. On this, in 1807, he built the house that was to be his home for nearly forty years. To this original property he subsequently added by purchase from Sullivan (March 30, 1810), from William Tilden and heirs of Ralph Inman (May 10 and 11, 1810), and from the estate of Ebenezer White (August 28, 1820, this parcel including a dwelling house, "hall," and other buildings) all the land on Kingston Street southerly to Pond Street (formerly Rowe's Lane and now Bedford Street), bounded on the south and west by Bedford Street and by land of John Rowe, Speakman, Thomas Thompson and David Ellis. The price paid for the entire property (four lots) was \$21,414.51. The exact area cannot be determined from the description, but the original purchase was at an average price of about fifty cents and the later of sixty-three cents per square foot.

The house stood at the northwesterly corner of

K. May, and others, this effort ultimately took partial shape in the building of Commercial Street. Colonel May died July 16, 1812.

the property next to that of David Ellis, Esq., room being left between the two houses sufficient for a driveway to the stable adjoining and in the rear of the house. It was of three stories in height, built of light-colored Philadelphia brick, and stood on a high bank, perhaps twelve or fifteen feet back from Summer Street, with a grass plot in front. On either side of the entrance from the street stood a large horse-chestnut tree, and at the top of the steps, just before the door, two pairs of pillars, around which twined monthly honeysuckles which blossomed until the cold weather came.

Within on either side of the front door was a large parlor, that on the left being the family living-room, and from the hall between a circular stairway led to the first floor of chambers, but extended no further, access to the other sleeping-rooms being from the back entry. Some of the furniture of the other parlor, a room not so commonly used by the family, hand-painted in white and gold, and a teaset of old English "Spode" ware are still in the possession of his daughter, Louisa May Goddard.

Between the house and Kingston Street to the east was the "grass garden" so-called, and to the south of this on Kingston Street the "vegetable garden" and "pasture." The lot at the corner

of Bedford Street was rented to a Mr. Bowen for a slate-yard, the largest at that time in Boston, and next to this was a small one-story wooden building formerly occupied as a chapel and for meetings and sundry uses, serving at one time the purpose of a "crèche," where small children were left to be cared for while the mothers were at work. This building was afterwards fitted up by Mr. Goddard for a private school for boys,<sup>1</sup> which was taught here by his son-in-law, Henry W. Pickering, during the years 1835 to 1837.

He also built, about this time, a second and larger stable to the south of the house, and the old stable was thereafter used for other purposes, a workbench being fitted up there for his use where he did odd bits of work in which he had considerable skill — he used to say that he wished he had learned a trade, such as shoemaking, with which he might occupy himself at home in the evenings — and a high desk in the "barn-chamber," at which he used to write on stormy days or when for any reason he did not go to the counting-room, one of his clerks coming to the house at these times to assist him.

In front of the new stable in the yard facing Kingston Street stood three large English walnut trees; in the garden were grown the common

<sup>1</sup> Called the "Bedford Hall School."

early spring vegetables, and under date of May 5, 1842, appears the memorandum: "Planted two rows of beans and two rows of corn this day." He was in the habit of saying that he regarded his garden as "better than doctors' bills," while Miss Hannah Wheaton, an out-of-town friend of the family, was accustomed to testify to the excellence of its products by an annual visit "for the string-beans, which she could not get so good in the country."

The Kingston Street side of the property was enclosed by a wooden fence painted green, this being also a favorite color with him in the painting of his vessels,<sup>1</sup> though the upper and exposed parts of these were commonly of a cream tint as "more likely to throw off the heat and preserve the wood."

Mr. Goddard's neighbors in Summer Street at this time were David Ellis, in the house next above his own, and at the corner of Chauncy Place (now Chauncy Street) Dr. James Jackson; beyond Chauncy Place to the west, Rev. Dr. Frothingham, Dr. Jacob Bigelow, Henry Cabot, and Samuel P. Gardner, whose house was where Hovey's store now stands; below Kingston, at the corner, William R. (and later Horace) Gray, and

<sup>1</sup> The coming of the "Green Dragon" into Canton referred to the arrival of one of his ships. Recollections of Thomas Wigglesworth, Esq.

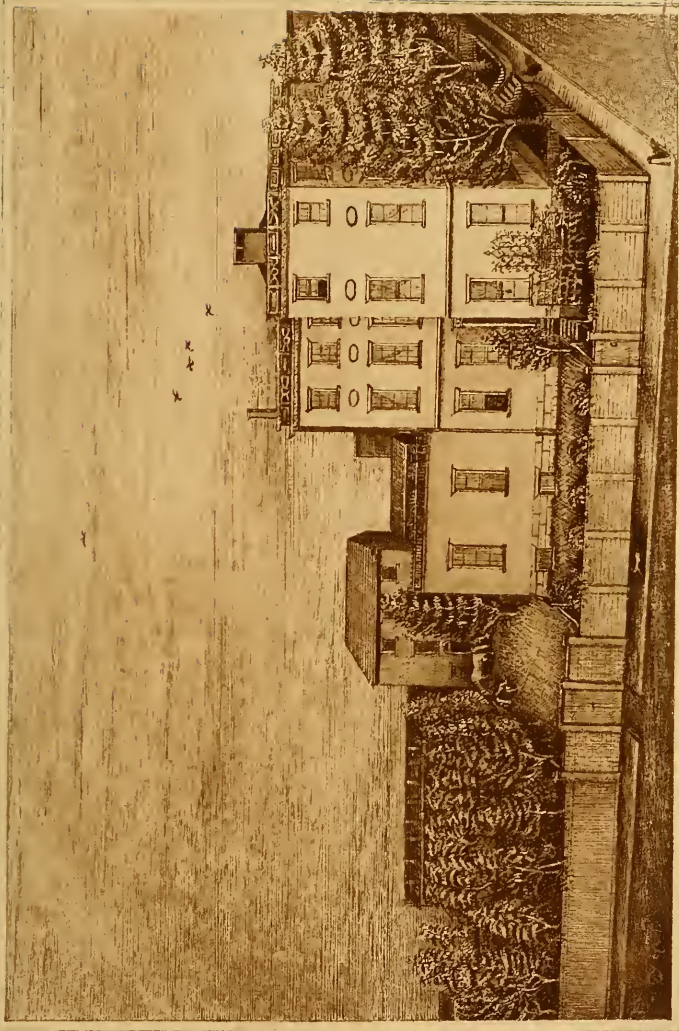


SUMMER STREET HOME OF NATHANIEL GODDARD

*From a pencil sketch by Henry Weld Fuller, Esq.*



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next to him John Welles. On the opposite side of Summer Street, below Winthrop Place, lived Henry Gassett and William Sturgis, and between Winthrop Place and Otis place, the Rev. Alexander Young, whose church was across the street on "Church Green," Daniel Webster,<sup>1</sup> Israel Thorndike<sup>2</sup> and John C. Gray. Between Otis Place and Arch Street were the houses of George Blake, Edward Everett and John Tappan; and above Arch Street, of Benjamin Bussey, occupied by his daughter Mrs. Davis, and William Pratt.

The family life was quiet and domestic, with regular hours, as was the habit of those days. Mr. Goddard was himself an early riser, often working in his garden before breakfast, pruning the fruit trees or trimming the grapevines and training them over a trellis.<sup>3</sup> After breakfast and on his way to the counting-room he did his marketing at the Quincy Market, principally with Messrs. J. & H. Bird (who also supplied his ships with fresh meats), his servant Michael

<sup>1</sup> Here Mr. Webster entertained Lafayette on his visit to Boston in 1824, a door being opened between his house and that of Mr. Thorndike adjoining, for the better accommodation of the company. Henrietta Goddard, then a young girl of eighteen, attended this reception, and well remembered Lafayette, standing by Mr. Webster's side and shaking hands with the guests as they arrived and were presented.

<sup>2</sup> In 1820 Nathaniel Goddard paid Israel Thorndike \$350 as his share of the benefit from the widening of Otis Place and Summer Street.

<sup>3</sup> In later years and after leaving Summer Street he bought a small piece of land in Brighton, where he might pursue and enjoy this occupation.

Larkin <sup>1</sup> following with a large basket to take home the purchases, none of which were delivered by the markets at that time. He was always at his counting-room by nine o'clock or earlier, remaining there until one, when in common with other merchants he went "on Change." This was in State Street opposite the present Exchange Building, and here on the sidewalk and half way across the street might be seen at this hour familiar figures, such as William Sturgis and John Bryant, Josiah Bradlee, Samuel<sup>x</sup> and Nathan Appleton, Captain Ben Rich, William Appleton, Robert G. Shaw, Phineas Upham, Thomas B. Curtis, Daniel C. Bacon, and Robert Hooper. On rainy days these gentlemen frequented certain insurance offices in the neighborhood, such as the "American," its rival, the "Suffolk," at the corner of State and Congress Streets (known as the "Ruffled Shirt" office) and the "Merchants'," of which Mr. Goddard was one of the organizers. From here he went home to dinner at two o'clock, which continued to be his dinner hour as long as he lived. After dinner he usually went back to the counting-room and stayed there until five o'clock or later; sometimes in the afternoon he would

<sup>1</sup> Afterwards for many years in the service of Thomas Wigglesworth Esq.



drive to Brookline to see his brother Benjamin, driving in a broad two-wheeled chaise, his horse being a colt which had been raised for him.<sup>1</sup>

The family tea hour was seven o'clock, and promptly at this hour, as at other meals, Michael would bring into the sitting-room from the hall two heavy mahogany tables which, fitted together, made the dining-table. From ten to fourteen usually sat at table daily, the eldest daughter, Lucretia, being the only one married prior to the year 1835, and his son George<sup>2</sup> dining with the family only on Sundays. The latter at this time lived with bachelor friends, Messrs. Iasigi, Frank Codman, Gossler and others, in the house at the southeasterly corner of Chestnut and Spruce Streets, and later at the Tremont House. After tea Mr. Goddard was in the habit of playing a game of checkers, of which he was very fond, with one of his sons-in-law if either of them happened to be present. He was

<sup>1</sup> Michael Larkin, who worked in the stable and on the grounds as well as about the house, and was a privileged servant, was a man of much precision and punctiliousness of speech. Mr. Goddard said to him one day, "Michael, won't you put the horse in the chaise and bring him round to the door?" "I can't do it, sir." "Why not, Michael?" "Because he is too heavy, sir." "Michael, won't you be good enough to attach the horse to the chaise and lead him round to the door?"

<sup>2</sup> In a letter, dated December 30, 1802, Benjamin Goddard writes to his brother John: "When I wrote you last I told you that Brother Nathl intended to call his son George Washington. He suddenly altered his mind and has called him George Augustus."

very domestic in his habits, rarely leaving the house in the evening, and almost never going to the theatre, an occasion on which he took several of his children to see Macready being the only one within their remembrance. At nine o'clock a dish of nuts and raisins with a decanter of sherry or madeira was brought in, especially if visitors were present. Large parties were not given, but smaller gatherings of a few friends in the evening with perhaps some dancing; all the daughters, however, went actively into society.<sup>1</sup>

Commencement Day at Cambridge was an important event in these days. Under date of September 16, 1829, Henrietta Goddard writes to her sister Lucretia (Mrs. Gould), then in Europe: "I believe I have not written you since Commencement; we six of us went over, but only Frances, George, and self to Gray's room. The day was very favorable and the parts generally good, though none of them were remarkably brilliant; Storrow, Gray, Cunningham, Devereaux, Robbins and Channing did best. At the room we had a very merry time; he took the whole Lyceum for the occasion."

In a letter dated March 30, 1830, the same

<sup>1</sup> The dancing of Henrietta Goddard with Mr. S. Parkman Blake, himself a fine dancer, was the subject of flattering observation and comment in the ballroom, other couples often yielding the floor to them, as if by general desire and consent.

writer thus describes one of the parties given at this time: "Some of our good gentry, taking compassion on the fashionable community, to prevent its falling into an irrevocable sleep, issued cards of invitation for a ball at the Tremont House; they were Messrs. Belknap, Cushing, F. C. Gray, Paige, Clarke, J. Gray, S. Lawrence & Truman. It was a splendid affair, they danced in the two end rooms of the building, having a band in each, the long entry or promenade from one to the other had shrubs, plants of various kinds and orange trees on each side. There was a great profusion of natural flowers about the rooms and on the supper table. This last was elegantly spread, and resembled more, I presume, some suppers which you have seen abroad than any we have had here; in the centre was a pavilion of sugar with seats inside, and supported by columns of rock candy which glittered like jewelry. Everything was in French style and so metamorphosed that nobody knew where to find what was called for; for instance, a gentleman called for tongue & after a long search it was discovered in the form of a goose; but these things are all old to you now — we, you must remember, are half a century behind the French in such matters. I will not undertake to describe the dresses but should like to tell you

what M<sup>rs</sup> Otis wore to M<sup>rs</sup> Bond's. Her dress was black canton crape with a white satin waist and sleeves, a bouquet of large artificial flowers on each shoulder, one before and one behind, her hair dressed very high, with a similar bunch of flowers on the top of it and above all a stuffed bird."

The following extracts from a letter dated April 28, 1830, give some further account of social life and incidents in Boston at this time: "We have not much news — the city is full of horrid stories, but I do not believe them. Miss Perkins had her bag and veil taken from her the other day in broad daylight while walking in Beacon Street, and received a severe blow at the same time; there have been one or two other such instances. . . . The Otis family and Miss Marshall are reconciled; that is our best news. Young M<sup>r</sup> O. made a fine speech, I believe in our House of Representatives, but I don't know when; it was very much applauded and his father was so delighted that he went to him, shook hands and asked if there was anything in the world he could do for him; he requested him to treat Miss M. as a daughter and he promised to do so. Shortly after, meeting her in the street, he went to her and requested permission to call and see her, saying that he should

not think of taking that liberty unless she would permit him; she said she should be pleased to see him, etc., and the matter is settled. This is the story. She says she shall not be married any earlier than she should before the reconciliation took place, in other words not till he can support her, and I like her spirit. We hear very often from George; he is very well. Next Tuesday is exhibition<sup>1</sup> and we all expect to go. I wish you both could join our party. I don't think N. & B. will have any company at their room, as they seem to have no wish for it, nor have they many acquaintances beyond the family; we, however, anticipate a good deal of pleasure. President Q(uincy) has requested them not to entertain their classes."

Among the visitors at Mr. Goddard's house were Mr. Issaverdens, a Smyrnyote Greek engaged in the Mediterranean trade, Mr. Gossler, a banker, Mr. Iasigi, Mr. Meier and Mr. Knorre, all representing foreign business houses, and upon friendly and cordial terms with the family. Miss Lucretia Dawes, a maiden lady of pleasant manners and quaint humor and a relative of the family,<sup>2</sup> was a frequent visitor, and other

<sup>1</sup> At Cambridge.

<sup>2</sup> Miss Dawes was a daughter of William Dawes, Junior, and half sister of Mehitable (Dawes) Goddard.



relatives coming in from the country towns would frequently, as was the custom in those days, put up their horses in the stable and their trunks would be found standing in the hallway, prepared for a visit without formal invitation. The house is said to have been a source of much wonder and admiration to strangers, who would come to see it as they might to see a notable public building.

Mr. Goddard imported at one time gold watches for his seven daughters, a piano, a harp for his daughter Lucretia and a lyre for Henrietta; these are all now in the family, the harp in actual use. Two of the daughters, Mary and Frances, played a few simple airs on the piano, but the family could not fairly be called a musical one. He was in the habit of doing all such things on a large and liberal scale, as is shown by these importations. It is said to have been his intention to build a block of houses on Kingston Street, one for each of his children as they married.

The family attended the "First (Unitarian) Church" in Chauncy Place (Rev. N. L. Frothingham's), and until the latter part of his life Mr. Goddard was a regular attendant, his pew being numbered 58 on the left of the broad aisle about half way to the pulpit. Chauncy Place was at



that time separated from Bedford Place by a brick wall and stone gate-posts; both are now parts of Chauncy Street.

In appearance Mr. Goddard was at this time a man of medium height, inclined to be stout, of full body, erect, and quick in his movements, of florid face, and with gray hair. He invariably wore knee-breeches,<sup>1</sup> with black silk stockings in summer and white-topped boots in winter. Smith & Gore, who kept a stocking store in Boston, imported these stockings once a year for him and for Mr. Barney Hedge of Plymouth (six pairs for each), who were the last to wear them. The upper part of his costume was a dress coat and waistcoat, both of the prevailing black, varied only by a white waistcoat which he invariably wore in summer, ruffled shirt, and white neck-handkerchief tied behind. Earlier in life he wore a queue tied with a black ribbon. The overcoat was a surtout opening behind. A fall from the capsill of a wharf in icy weather on to the fender of a vessel which he was loading caused a lameness which gave him a slight limp in walking ever afterwards. He was a man of great endurance, especially in the power of going without food, often putting some crackers

<sup>1</sup> A pair of silver knee-buckles is in the possession of his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Henry S. Bush.

in his pocket in the morning and going all day without returning home to dinner or eating other food.

But very few data exist for a connected account of the first years of his business life in Boston, but it is known that as early as 1802 he was purchasing wharf property at the North End, buying in that year from Harrison Gray Otis and Artemas Ward an interest ( $\frac{1}{24}$ ) in the Boston Pier or Long Wharf, otherwise known as the "Island Wharf," and "the store now occupied by Head & Amory together with the whole of the stores numbered 28 and 29 in the upper division and 52 in the lower division of said wharf." He subsequently purchased other stores or store lots on the same wharf, and also acquired an interest in "Rhoades' Wharf" adjoining. From this time until almost the end of his life he was dealing largely in wharf property, as will later appear.

In 1816 he seems to have begun his ship-building career; at any rate the earliest record that is preserved shows that in March of that year he contracted with Calvin Turner of Medford to build for him the brig Governor Brooks of the following dimensions: 76 feet keel measurement, 23 feet beam, 11 feet 6 inches deep in the lower hold and 5 feet 6 inches between decks. "She

shall be ceiled with good white oak plank full  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick and made sufficiently tight to hold flax seed," etc., all details being minutely specified to insure thorough work, the vessel to be completed on or before the first day of August following. The actual dimensions, as appear by the Register, December 30, 1816, are: length 94 feet, breadth  $24\frac{2}{12}$  feet, tonnage  $244\frac{3}{5}$ . The wages list is as follows: Captain \$50.00 per month and perquisites or \$100.00 per month and no perquisites; mate \$25.00 per month; second mate and carpenter \$25.00 per month; six men and cook \$11.00 per month; boy \$8.00 per month. In June, 1816, he was contracting for repairs on the brig Gemini, but beyond this there is no record of her purchase or building. In all his ship-building contracts the most careful provision is made to ensure thoroughness of construction, every detail for planking of hull, decks, iron-work, rigging and finish of every description being set forth with the utmost minuteness.

In 1818 he bought with Captain Burrows the brig Dryade of 260 tons, George Wilson master, and later purchased Captain Burrows's share. At about the same time he built or bought the Ventrosa, Captain James Allen, and the Grampus, Captain Elkanah Bangs. In 1835

Jotham Stetson of Medford built for him the barque Van Buren, of 360 tons, and in 1836 the barque Frederic Warren, of 363 tons. The latter was commanded by Captain Nichols, and was the last ship he ever built. He also owned the brig Aphthorp, the Trescott, named after his friend Col. Lemuel Trescott, and commanded by Captain Joseph Lindsay; another called the Timor; the brig Louisa, Captain Warner, in which his son Benjamin afterwards made a voyage to Smyrna; and in conjunction with Mr. B. A. Gould the barque Tartar, William W. Johnson, master.<sup>1</sup> The brig Beta, Captain William Cleveland, and the Columbia, Captain John O. Foster, make up a fleet of thirteen sail, of which he was sole or part owner, in most cases the former, and whose voyages he directly managed and controlled.<sup>2</sup> A long list of captains includes, besides those above mentioned, the names of John W. Allen, William Symmes, Samuel Moore, John Cushing, Aaron Brewster, Symes Potter, Allen Bursley, John S. Abbott, William T. Marshall, Samuel Somes, James Pearson, J. C. Barnard, Francis Blackler and Asa Pratt. Mr. Goddard was at all times considerate of the health and comfort of his

<sup>1</sup> March 6, 1845, he sold his interest in this vessel to Mr. Gould.

<sup>2</sup> See reference to ownership of the "Ariadne," p. 235.

officers and men, as his letters show, but he was strict in requiring on their part exemplary conduct and a prompt observance of orders. While making due allowance for difficulties in individual cases, he was unyielding in all matters involving a possible detention or delay of his vessels as affecting the outcome of the voyage. Neglect of orders, careless handling of the ship, and above all intemperance, were faults which it was impossible to overlook or condone. In a letter to Mr. Gould dated June 1, 1829, he says, "I am afraid that Captain F's face is too round to make great despatch, though I gave him a good lesson the last time he was here — he promised to profit by it but may have forgotten it before this time; most all of them want a little more Cayenne pepper, not rum."

In March, 1846, Mr. Goddard contracted with Messrs. Holbrook & Dillon to build for him a mud-excavating machine, the Neptune, to cost twelve thousand dollars, and also three "gondolas" or scows.

For many years his counting-room was on Union Wharf, which he owned, having purchased one-half of the property in 1828 from Henry K. May and the remaining half in 1834;<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Union Wharf had been owned by Colonel John May and was known as "May's Wharf."



but whether this was his earliest place of business it is impossible now to determine. His office was a single room with loft overhead in a brick building at the lower end of the wharf, the windows looking down the harbor. Next door and in the same block were Messrs. Mackay & Coolidge, Alfred Richardson, Nathaniel and Benjamin Goddard (his sons), and William W. Goddard (his nephew), and in a wooden building at the head of the wharf his son-in-law, Benjamin Apthorp Gould. The wharfingers were successively Henry K. May and Captain David Elwell. His son George had a desk in the counting-room, and was engaged in business as an importer, but not in partnership with his father. Later, however, he was a part-owner in several of his father's vessels as will hereafter appear. The bookkeeper was Mr. Foster of the old firm of Walley & Foster, who was later succeeded on his retirement by Henry W. Pickering.

In order to gain a just view of Mr. Goddard's varied shipping interests and of his widely extended dealings with home and foreign ports, it may be well to follow the course of some of his ships' voyages as detailed in his instructions to captains, supercargoes and consignees; the following facts are extracted from such of his letter-books and memoranda as are now extant.



The brig "Governor Brooks" (Joseph Pierce, and later John W. Allen, master) sailed from Boston for Baltimore December 31, 1816, consigned to Amos Adams Williams, arrived there on the 7th of January, hauled into the wharf on the 8th, and sailed thence on the 19th with a cargo of flour for Lisbon, arriving there on the 3d day of March; left that place on the 28th of March for Dublin where she arrived in 26 days on the 23d of April; sailed thence on the 17th day of May for St. Petersburg, arriving on the 5th day of June, and July 17 sailed for Boston, arriving in 46 days, September 1, 1817. On the 24th of September she sailed for New Orleans consigned to Messrs. Richardson & Fisk, arriving November 1, loading with cotton and tobacco and clearing for Havre December 30; left the bar January 3, 1818, arriving at Havre February 18; sailed for New Orleans March 27, arriving June 3, and left again for Havre June 22, arriving August 10; left Havre for St. Petersburg August 18, arriving September 6, and sailed thence October 7 for Boston, arriving November 26, 1818.

The following letters will illustrate in part the voyages above named, as well as others undertaken during the same years and later up to the month of February, 1821.

BOSTON, September 23, 1817.

TO CAPT. JOHN W. ALLEN.

SIR:—You being master of the brig “Governor Brooks” now in this harbor and ready for sea, it is my wish that you will improve the first fair wind and proceed for New Orleans with all possible despatch; on your arrival there you will please to deliver the articles of cargo on board on my account to Messrs. Richardson & Fisk for sale and those on freight to the several consignees, they paying you freight on the same which you will please to reserve to defray your port charges. You will employ Messrs. Richardson & Fisk to procure a balance of freight for the brig for some European port, which port you will be notified of on your arrival by letters which I shall forward to you and also to the above gentlemen in season for the purpose. I shall forward funds which with the proceeds of merchandise on board I shall request to have invested immediately in cotton and tobacco and shipped as occasion may require, respecting which I shall write the consignees from time to time; but you will bear in mind that I prefer a reasonable freight for the vessel at all times to shipping on my own account, and if one and one-half pence sterling per pound or upwards

can be had without any loss of time for hard-pressed cotton, take this on freight to the exclusion of my property which may remain subject to my future disposal; but as a part of my present investment is ordered in tobacco, it may be necessary to decide immediately on discharging whether she can be filled up without loss of time, as in case I am obliged to ship a part my tobacco must go into the bottom of the vessel. Many vessels will be directly after yours, therefore you will see the importance of despatch and that some cargo is ready to go on board before all is taken out. You will be careful that neither officers nor men take any contraband goods on board or attempt to smuggle any article. You will also attend to and see that your business is properly attended to by the commission merchants you employ or who do the business of the brig, and that no commission is charged you on money advanced to pay disbursements, and in case you take passengers find no wine nor spirits for their use. Should you at any time on your voyages visit any port in England or Ireland and leave said port without any freight for any other part of the world, please to clear for the same port you arrived from; this saves half the tonnage or light money. When you return to the United States make your manifest

and report for some other port than the one you arrive at; this will enable you to go to a second port without discharging, if it is necessary in order to find a better market. You will, if in Europe and you receive no counter orders, cause to be remitted the proceeds of all your freights to Samuel Williams, Esq.,<sup>1</sup> Merchant, No. 13 Finsbury Square, London, for my account. You will keep me advised from time to time of the progress you make by every good conveyance by water to this place direct or via New York, and while in New Orleans please to write by mail weekly.

BOSTON, September 24, 1817.

MESSRS. RICHARDSON & FISK,

[New Orleans].

GENTLEMEN:—Your Mr. Fisk has undoubtedly informed you of my intention of sending to your house my brig “Governor Brooks,” John W. Allen, master, for a freight for Europe, and

<sup>1</sup> During the year 1825 Mr. Williams, who had been Mr. Goddard’s correspondent in London for many years, failed in business. The high esteem in which he was held by his associates is shown by the following extract from a letter written by Benjamin Goddard to his brother John, dated in December of that year: “Brothers Nathaniel and William each have about three thousand pounds st<sup>s</sup> in his [Mr. Williams’] hands. Nathaniel was liable to have had a much greater sum, which Mr. Williams had authority to draw for, the proceeds of a cargo sent to the North of Europe, but as an honest man he did not avail himself of it.”

also of forwarding funds by mail for the purchase of cotton and tobacco in addition to sundry articles on board and freight, which articles I wish sold and the amount also invested as hereafter requested, to wit: immediately on the arrival of the vessel I wish her put up for freight for Havre; my brother, Mr. William Goddard, and my nephew, Mr. Samuel Goddard, have agreed to ship a quantity of cotton in her and I have no doubt but they have forwarded funds and orders for purchasing it; if with this freight agreed for a sufficient quantity at a fair rate of freight shall offer while discharging her outward cargo, you will commence loading and send her off without loss of time. In the meantime and as soon as you receive this you will commence purchasing for my account without delay and continue as you shall be in funds until you complete a purchase of one hundred hogsheads all of the first quality of tobacco, provided the price shall not exceed seven cents per pound (and I hope it will be very much under). The balance of my funds including the proceeds of property on board invest in the first quality and no other of new cotton, and should this first quality of new cotton be as low or lower than twenty-eight cents per pound at any time you may draw on me at sixty days sight for \$5000 more and invest this also. I



shall be pleased to find that you are able to anticipate the amount of the proceeds of merchandise on board to add to my other funds. I will enclose an invoice of this property that you may have some guide to dispose of it by. The sheetings are very good having been selected by one of the best judges in St. Petersburg and cost an extra price, but the Ravens duck is as good if not superior to any ever imported into the United States and cost in Russia more than the common kind retails at here. The boards are a common kind and the mackerel also; the molasses hogsheads were picked by a cooper and cost an extra price and I hope you will obtain one for them. The New England rum is as good as any and the barrels ought to be paid for, but in this particular you will have to conform to the custom of the place. I shall forward funds to the amount of \$20,000 as good safe opportunity may offer. The brig sailed for your city this day; I forgot to speak respecting her, but will merely say that she is inferior to no one ever built. I think it probable that the articles in my invoice would net me as much sold from the levee as in any way, with the exception perhaps of the duck sheetings and rum, and a part of them may sell as well. The report here is that tobacco can be had



at five and a quarter cents per pound; I hope it may, but if not you may go as high as seven cents.

BOSTON, October 21, 1817.

CAPT. JOHN W. ALLEN,

SIR:— This will reach you in New Orleans by the time you will have your cargo on board. I wish you to proceed thence with all possible despatch for Havre, call on Messrs. Welles, Williams and Greene to transact your business, deliver them my part of your cargo to be disposed of immediately for my account and have the proceeds remitted to Samuel Williams, Esq., Merchant, London, on whom I shall draw as occasion may require. The remainder of the cargo you may deliver agreeably to the bills of lading and receive your freight or get Messrs. Welles, Williams and Greene to collect it by agreement made with the shippers here; the rate is to be one and a half pence sterling per pound and five per cent primage. You will immediately on being discharged ballast the vessel, take on board any freight that may offer without detention and proceed directly back for New Orleans where I shall write you again. I expect you will be ready to leave New Orleans by the 20th of November, reach Havre by the 1st of January

and get back to New Orleans by the 20th of February; if you will accomplish this voyage in the above-named time, which I think amply sufficient, I will give you a hundred dollars extra for the voyage. You need not wait an hour for freight at Havre, but take in some ballast before you take out all your cargo, as the vessel will be crank when light. In returning it may be best to run the trades down for old Cape François and along the north side of Hispaniola, then between that island and Cuba and along the south side of Cuba, as your vessel may draw too much water to go over the banks, and I think this first-named route the easiest for a winter passage, but of this you will judge. You will replenish your provisions if necessary in Havre. Please be very careful that your officers or men do not attempt to smuggle anything, or in any way by illicit business hazard the vessel or cause any detention.

BOSTON, December 1, 1817.

SAMUEL WILLIAMS, ESQ.,

London.

SIR: — My brig "Governor Brooks," John W. Allen, master, was at New Orleans on the 1st ultimo; part of a cargo is engaged on freight and in order to make great despatch I forwarded about

\$26,000 to invest in tobacco and cotton, or altogether in cotton as the price might be. She is ordered to Havre and consigned to Messrs. Welles, Williams and Greene, and I have requested them to remit the proceeds of freight to you and also the proceeds of my property on board if shipped and it can be sold immediately at my limits, or as much on account of said property as they may be willing to advance until sold, which amount I may have occasion to draw for to reinvest and do it before I can hear from them or yourself. The "Ventrosa" is at Savannah and I have forwarded \$30,000 to be invested in rice and cotton, or wholly in cotton if rice is too high, and I hope the balance of her cargo will be obtained on freight; this vessel will sail for Antwerp and go consigned to Messrs. L. J. Mertens, Mosselman & Co. for sales of cargo. A young gentleman, Mr. Charles Bruce, is on board for the purpose of attending to her business, etc. My object is to obtain an advance on this cargo as much as these gentlemen are willing to give, to enable me to prosecute the second part of the voyage, to wit: with this property to proceed to Havana and invest it in coffee and sugar and return to Antwerp consigned to the same house, whom I shall request to remit the whole net proceeds to you, from

which place the vessel will proceed to the northward for a cargo and return home. I would not trouble you with this long narrative were it not probable Mr. Bruce would be compelled to get his doubloons from London, in which case he may request your aid, and you will very much oblige me by giving him the necessary information on his requesting it.

BOSTON, January 3, 1818.

MESSRS. WELLES, WILLIAMS & GREENE.

GENTLEMEN: — I avail myself of this opportunity via Rochelle to write again in case my others to you on circuitous routes might miscarry, and inform you that my brig the “Governor Brooks” has undoubtedly sailed before this time from New Orleans for your city and her cargo will be consigned to your house by the several shippers. I shall probably have on board about twenty-five or twenty-six thousand dollars’ worth of cotton which will be of a superior quality as the purchasers were ordered to ship no other; if this cotton will bring but a small profit or only enough to pay all charges including freight, I am willing it should be immediately disposed of, but if it will not do this and you are willing to advance largely upon it, I had rather it should be holden for a better price as the supply

will not be very large from America this year. In case it is sold I wish all the proceeds, with the exception of \$5,000 which I wish paid to the Captain, remitted to Samuel Williams, Esq., London, for my account, as I wish to draw for the purpose of reloading the vessel again at New Orleans. Captain Allen will receive this \$5,000 and the proceeds of freight, and after refitting the vessel for sea and paying his port charges, take the amount back with him to New Orleans. I hope the vessel will not be detained a week in port, and if the cotton will bring a decent profit over cost and charges please to sell it on landing.

BOSTON, May 26, 1818.

TO MESSRS. RICHARDSON & FISK.

GENTLEMEN: . . . It is possible amongst the *wonderful* things that are taking place that cotton and tobacco may for want of vessels to ship in or some other cause get very low; should the former go down at any period, for the very best kind as low as thirty cents per pound, or the latter of the very best quality go down to seven cents per pound or below, and my vessel have left my funds in your hands not invested, you may invest the whole amount in either or both of these articles without waiting to hear from me.

BOSTON, June 20, 1818.

CAPTAIN JOHN W. ALLEN.

SIR, — This will be forwarded to you by Samuel Williams, Esq., London, who will give you a letter of credit to Mr. John D. Lewis of Petersburg where I wish you to proceed with the brig with the greatest despatch for a cargo, agreeable to memorandum subjoined, provided the prices of the several articles shall bear a price proportional to the prices annexed to them in the memorandum subjoined. The quantity of iron and hemp I wish to come let the price vary as it will, unless a large quantity has been shipped for America; if a very large quantity of hemp shall have been shipped take less of that article, especially if it is high, but if a very little has been shipped even if the price is some enhanced take the whole quantity. Tallow may be omitted altogether if the price on board including all charges shall be over nine cents. The manufactures may be increased or diminished as the prices may vary from the memorandum and as quantities may have been shipped or omitted; if but a small proportion to the usual imports to America of some of them has been shipped you may increase the quantities of such; if many or an increased proportion of others has been shipped previously, you may omit a part



or all of such. I shall request Mr. Williams to give authority to draw for a sum not over forty-five or less than forty thousand dollars to invest; should the vessel not be loaded on my account, investing the funds as I have proportioned them, take freight if to be had, otherwise increase the quantity of iron, and if there should not be as much difference between old "sable" and new as \$5.00 per ton please to take all old "sable."

BOSTON, June 22, 1818.

MR. JOHN D. LEWIS.

SIR, — Your several favors have duly come to hand and I thank you for the attention in giving the state of the markets, but regret the general rise of goods as they will not rise proportionally here, and our duty on many articles is much enhanced particularly on iron and flems. The "Governor Brooks," Captain Allen, will be in St. Petersburg, accidents excepted, this season, but on account of unavoidable detentions will be a late vessel; I hope every possible despatch will be given her that she may not be too late on our coast in returning. I shall enclose a list of the wished-for cargo provided there shall be no essential variation in the prices or relative rates they shall bear to each other; should the rise or

fall in manufactures be uniform, there is no objection to taking the proportion of each as stated in the memorandum, unless a large and disproportionate quantity of some shall have been shipped, in which case I would lessen the quantity of such articles; or in case but a little of some articles shall have been shipped to America, in that case I would much increase such articles provided they are considered to be of a staple kind, governing the shipments of articles and proportion by circumstances. If in shipping iron the difference of price per ton between old and new "sable" shall not exceed \$5.00, please to omit the new and ship all of the old "sable," and if the difference between clean and "out shot" hemp shall not be \$20.00 per ton ship all clean; no bristles will answer but the very best quality, and they will answer at any reasonable rate. The best yellow candle tallow may answer at nine cents per pound all charges on board, but not at a higher rate; if the cost is more than this please omit it altogether. I have added to the list furnished Captain Allen some sheet iron with a description and price limited at five and a half cents per pound on board; if this is purchased at this rate it will answer well; but it is important that the bands be light as the duty is very great here, and also

that it be perfectly free from rust, smooth and bright, and stowed in a part of the vessel between decks where no dampness is and where it cannot be bruised. If Captain Allen goes to your city as I expect, his funds will probably not exceed \$40,000, in which case the vessel may not be loaded or filled; I should therefore be glad of freight to fill up provided it did not make her too deep, as I had rather she would take no freight than to come at that season of the year deep.

BOSTON, January 22, 1819.

MESSRS. WALN AND MORRIS.

[Philadelphia]

GENTLEMEN, — I have concluded to send one of my vessels to India and shall have to raise a considerable sum for funds to load her; she is now in Charleston and will proceed to Europe for her dollars, for which purpose additional funds will be wanted; I must beg of you to use your best endeavors to sell what merchandise I have in your hands, if you can without sacrifice, to repay you and to enable me to draw further at sixty days, though as I before observed, if it is in any way inconvenient to pay my last draft you may draw on me for the amount.

BOSTON, January 30, 1819.

MR. CHARLES BRUCE.

SIR, — I wrote you in great haste to-day just at the closing of the mail and was as particular as the time would admit, but had no time to take a copy. In that I pointed out as well as I could the manner I wished my funds disposed of but did not explain why I wished the amount of them taken from the banks in specie; this will cause a temporary check and enable you to buy. I will now add, if you do not succeed in investing them as I have requested and they shall remain on hand on the sailing of the "Governor Brooks," the "Dryade," Captain Burrows, will be there,<sup>1</sup> and if you find he is bound for Antwerp, Amsterdam, Havre, Liverpool or London and you can ship at the same rate of freight as in the "Governor Brooks," and the price shall not exceed twenty-five cents for the very first quality, you may invest and ship the balance in cotton in that vessel. In calculating your exchange on London you will perceive they call par a different rate from what we cast it; they call the dollar four shillings eight pence sterling being their currency when in fact it is but four shillings and six pence, so that the pound sterling would be but four and 16/ 56 dollars making most two

<sup>1</sup> Charleston.

per cent difference, that is, their par is near two per cent discount.

BOSTON, February 19, 1819.

CAPT. JOHN W. ALLEN.

SIR, — I here enclose instructions for your voyage to India, having an earlier conveyance than I expected, and they will reach you soon after you arrive in Europe. I have written Mr. Williams respecting furnishing the funds and I have no doubt but he will to the amount of \$40,000 in Spanish dollars for cargo exclusive of other charges of outfits, etc., and if he is not disposed to advance on anticipation of remuneration from the proceeds of your present cargo with such remittances as I shall make to him, to that amount or the amount of \$35,000, I will not prosecute the voyage, but if you are in Liverpool and freight offers to any port in the United States, take it; if not, proceed as requested in my last of the 15th current. You need take no scales and weights, as these are wanted in pepper voyages in native ports alone. Since writing the instructions I find by a vessel arrived here this day that the government allow us to visit only two out ports in Java, and these are Samarang and Sourabay, for which you must obtain liberty at Batavia. In order to keep your men healthy,

in addition to keeping them on board and out of the hot hold of the vessel, do not let them drink Batavia water; it is good in the other parts of the island but not here.

BOSTON, March 2, 1819.

CAPT. JOHN W. ALLEN.

SIR, — When you get to Batavia if before the first of September you will find the crop is not in; therefore you will get old coffee if you can, if not you must be extremely careful that all you get is perfectly dry and in good order. I can add nothing now except what you will perceive from the papers, to wit, that the Floridas are ceded to the United States.

BOSTON, March 6, 1819.

CAPT. J. W. ALLEN.

SIR, — Since my last of the 2nd current Mr. Bruce has arrived and handed me a billet from you to him, with the request that I should write you respecting sundries therein contained, which I with pleasure improve the first opportunity to do; and first I will observe that the voyage to India will not be longer or more difficult than your voyage was last year from Boston until you return again, and much more pleasant for the vessel and for those on board; you will not be as likely to lose your boats or suffer damage



and I think the two you have amply sufficient. I have consulted Messrs. Bryant and Sturgis and they sometimes have more in a large vessel going to the native coast; they sometimes put on board a small whale boat but it is considered unnecessary and mere lumber to the vessel. I have no objection to your having four cannon, four or six pounders if you wish them, but I think to Java two would answer as there is no danger in port except of thieves; all the hazard is out of port on the coast, and then but a little especially when under weigh. There ought to be twelve good muskets with ball cartridges and spare powder. I have duplicated instructions and no doubt you will have received them before this reaches you. I hope you will not consult Englishmen in fitting your vessel, for they take twice as much as is necessary for an American; they calculate a two years' voyage and a Dutchman calculates on three years. I think our prospect good, for many people are discouraged about India voyages, therefore I am encouraged; I like the gloomiest times best for fitting out. Coffee no doubt will answer and rice to fill up if sugar does not promise better, and I think and hope you will be able to load at Java.

BOSTON, March 11, 1819.

MR. JOSEPH LELAND.<sup>1</sup>

SIR, — By the advice of our mutual friend Captain Holland I have shipped agreeable to bill of lading subjoined 110 pieces Russia sheetings; a certificate entitling them to debenture on exportation accompanies the goods. Please to dispose of them to the best advantage you can and hold the proceeds subject to my disposal.

BOSTON, June 19, 1819.

MR. SAMUEL GODDARD.

SIR, — Frederic will be the bearer of this; he has concluded to visit the "tight little island" for health which I sincerely hope he will find. He will probably call on you at Manchester in the course of his pilgrimage and will need much instruction and advice to pursue his course pleasantly. I have no doubt you will cheerfully give it, but I fear unless you are guarded that he may encroach too much on your time of business; do not let this be the case. I sincerely hope he will find you in the full enjoyment of health, swiftly moving on the great road to wealth, increasing all that is good and will promote happiness.

<sup>1</sup> The Messrs. Leland were later for many years his correspondents in Charleston, as was Mr. Elias Reed in Savannah, in the purchase of cotton; this was consigned for sale to Messrs. William Ford & Co. in Liverpool.

BOSTON, February 16, 1820.

MR. CHARLES BRUCE.

SIR, — Yours of the 3rd from Augusta reached me this day. I have written several times and anticipated the principal part of your wishes with respect to having every bale of cotton prime; should it be difficult to secure such I would advise you to get the best lots that are to be had and if there are a few not quite so good let it go with the rest; I do not wish you to perform impossibilities but I wish as good as can conveniently be obtained, and if any is ordinary the price of course will be less. In previous letters I requested you to buy square bales in preference, but not to give anything of consequence more for it; on taking the tare and freight into calculation it will not nett half a cent extra in Antwerp; in Havre it would make more difference.

BOSTON, February 18, 1820.

H. G. OTIS, ESQ.

SIR, — Yours of the 9th current covering a note from the Hon. Mr. Lowndes is before me. I regret the necessity for troubling you again on the subject of coins, but it appears from the note from Mr. Lowndes that I have been incorrect in my statement or that he has misunderstood it. I wrote in haste and took no copy, but I

believe I did not say that an assay of the metals was made in Boston; I certainly did not mean to be so understood, and will therefore give you my authority for the statement I did make respecting the fineness of the foreign gold and the American dollars early coined. Some time after the law expired continuing foreign gold a tender, I requested the cashier of the New England Bank to write to the cashier of the Commercial Bank of Pennsylvania, with whom we do business, and request of him as a favor to ascertain the loss if any in receiving foreign gold, and from what coin we should suffer the least. The answer is dated January 8, 1820, and follows: "On British gold if taken agreeably to Act of Congress of 1816 at the rate of \$8.00 for 9 dwts. there is no loss on carriage; Portugal gold though quoted at the same standard will not hold out; the Bank of North America fell short \$40 on the coinage of \$7,000 though every precaution had been taken in the receipt of it; there is from two to three months interval at the mint between the receipt and delivery. (Signed) Joseph Morris." With respect to the extra quantity of alloy of one per cent in dollars early coined, I will state my authority. Mr. John Vaughan of Philadelphia, a gentleman of great respectability, personally told me that

he was agent for a French house and as such received for them 150,000 dollars, and some time after ascertained that they were not as pure as the standard fixed by Act of Congress by one per cent; he then demanded of Mr. Boudinot, then Master of the Mint, the difference and was refused it, commenced a suit against him, and recovered \$1500, which I presume he could not have done unless he proved the fact in Court. I know of no particular assay, but in Canton and Calcutta (in the latter place they have a mint and recoin most of the silver exported there) our dollars will not answer by two per cent so well as Spanish. I must beg you to excuse me for being so prolix, but will not trouble you again on this subject.

BOSTON, February 26, 1820.

MR. MARCUS WHITING.

[Supercargo]

DEAR SIR, — I have received but one letter from you since you left here and nothing from Captain Bangs and I know not how to calculate for my vessels. The "Governor Brooks" will have reached you long before this, and probably has departed again either for Stockholm or New Orleans, I think the latter, as no iron can be had at Gothenburg until May and Stockholm

may remain frozen fully as long; but on this subject I have written fully before. I have not had a word from the "Ventrosa" since she left Charleston; I expect her in Savannah about this time and that she will make good despatch and be in Antwerp about the 20th of May, when I am desirous that she shall go to Gothenburg or Stockholm for 250 tons of bar iron, in the proportions I named in a list forwarded to you for the "Governor Brooks" cargo in case she went for iron. When the "Governor Brooks" returns to Europe from New Orleans, if she goes to any port to the northward of the Bay of Biscay I shall wish her to go to Russia for a return cargo; you can go in her or not as you please and I shall at some future time forward a memorandum for cargo. If this is not agreeable to you, I think it probable that the "Grampus" will be in Liverpool by the 10th of May next where I contemplate having her coppered and return with salt for freight to this port; should you prefer meeting her in that place you can cross over to England soon after the "Ventrosa" departs from Antwerp for her iron and you can then attend to coppering her. I expect that the "Dryade" will be in Liverpool in July and will probably return to Richmond, Virginia, with bag salt. Knowing where



I expect my vessels to be at different periods you will be able to judge which tour will be most agreeable to you and furnish the best convenience home. Our last dates from Frederic were 17th November last.

BOSTON, May 5, 1820.

MESSRS. JOHN LATHROP & Co.

[Savannah]

GENTLEMEN, — I have this day received a letter from Captain Wilson of the “Dryade” dated Liverpool, 25th March, by which I learn that he will be ready for sea in a few days with a cargo of coarse salt for your city. I am desirous of having the brig meet as great despatch as possible as advised in mine of the 25th ult., and decidedly prefer a decent freight to loading a part myself especially at the present rates of prices of your produce; it fluctuates in an inverse ratio; as it falls in Europe it rises with you and the most prime cotton cannot with safety be shipped to Liverpool with any prospect of profit at a higher rate than fifteen cents, and will nett a freight only at as high a rate as sixteen cents per pound. Rice will do at \$2.50 and even \$2.75 for prime, but if \$3.00 it will not pay over a freight. A few hogsheads of prime tobacco may also answer if the price should not be over four or five cents

per pound, but this article as well as the others will demand a very nice examination. The proportions of these articles may be varied as the prices and qualities may be; I would not vary the proportions much, but if cotton is fifteen cents for prime I would load with it if rice is over \$2.50, and if cotton be sixteen cents and prime rice is \$2.50 I would omit the cotton and load with rice, in either case putting in a few hogsheads of prime tobacco if within my limits and perfectly convenient to purchase it. I leave the business to your discretion wishing you to bear in mind that despatch is a great object. The brig "Arab" is going from this place in a day or two for a cargo of rice; please to bear this in mind and keep it to yourselves as it may affect the purchase of yours; Messrs. Mitchel and Bartlett will probably be the purchasers of that cargo.

BOSTON, June 24, 1820.

MESSRS. L. J. MERTENS, MOSSELMAN & CO.<sup>1</sup>

(Antwerp)

GENTLEMEN, — I have this day made a proposition to our mutual friend Mr. E. Rollins respecting the shipments to be made the ensuing season; it is of considerable importance to a continuance of this business that it be undertaken

<sup>1</sup> Appendix D.

with the greatest economy, that purchases should be made of the principal amount of cotton and rice before January and it would be better to have them made by the 25th November. In common seasons being thus early we have a choice of the crop and at the lowest rate. It will not be convenient for me to purchase to the extent that I am desirous of doing consistent with my other business, and advance the whole without the privilege of drawing, and though this privilege can be had elsewhere I give the preference to Antwerp to make a fair trial of what can be done. I own as many vessels as I am desirous of employing in this direct business, and I am aware of the necessity for making purchases at the most favorable moment, of having the selection of quality carefully attended to, the vessels promptly despatched and insurance made on the most favorable terms in order to secure a reasonable profit. I hope under the circumstances in which I propose to commence the trial that I shall so far succeed as to be able to pursue it to some advantage, when many others by sending their vessels transiently and purchasing at unfavorable moments suffer a loss by their shipments. One great loss generally sustained is caused by the shippers being compelled to make their insurance in England, a tax that this trade would not warrant,

and we do not feel as secure in case of a loss when insurance is made there; premiums are with us much lower, and we save the expense of stamps, duties, etc. I think Mr. Rollins would not feel unsafe even if all I should have afloat at any one time were totally lost without any insurance; at any rate he would be safe with the liberty granted that I ask, but it is not contemplated to ship without insurance as at the present low rates of premium it would be imprudent in the extreme and insurance will always be made. Should you grant the privilege agreeable to my proposal and it should not meet your expectations the first season it can be dispensed with immediately on notice being given.

BOSTON, August 5, 1820.

MR. SAMUEL GODDARD.

[Manchester]

DEAR NEPHEW, — In sixty days more I contemplate leaving the New England Bank; the term of my apprenticeship of seven years will then expire and I shall once more be elevated to the high standing of a private citizen. I cannot but think that a man is deficient in sense who condescends to accept of any place under any government of any description; it is a kind

of restraint on his liberty which I never mean to consent to again. I would not be compelled to be in any spot on any particular day, and in future I will do as I please, be where I please and when I please without any real or implied restraint, or be a servant; and if a servant I will serve whom I choose and when I please and live as I please, and nothing short of this is liberty. I have served more than seven apprenticeships and I will be free. My last in the New England Bank has been as pleasant as either and I have given notice that I shall stay no longer than the first Monday in October.<sup>1</sup>

You may ask what next and I answer business; the ensuing year I mean to do some, having been idle for a long period, and if by working diligently sixteen hours in the day, appropriating seven hours to sleep and one to amusements and eating, I cannot make money, I shall go without it; and it is not very unlikely that it will be the latter, but if we do not sow we cannot expect to reap. Business is as good here as we can reasonably expect it to continue in a state of

<sup>1</sup> On the 8th of July, 1813 the New England Bank was organized under a Charter of the year 1811. At a meeting at the Exchange Coffee House, at which the entire Board of twelve Directors was present, Nathaniel Goddard was elected President. He served longer than the "seven years apprenticeship," however, ultimately resigning October 7, 1823, when he was succeeded by Samuel Dorr, Esq. Mr. Goddard remained on the Board of Direction.



profound peace, and it cannot be said to be very bad, for where there is industry and economy people acquire property, but it is gathered slowly and things have not yet got down to the good old prices; therefore it requires much caution in trading. Labor and produce, however, keep up, and as on your side of the water you will not admit our produce for your consumption, we will not, I might say cannot, buy all your manufactures; if you oblige us to eat all our flour, corn, butter, etc. we will leave you to wear out or use your surplus manufactures; but remember that we are willing to exchange commodities on reasonable terms each party making his own bargain; this I call liberty.

BOSTON, August 5, 1820.

MESSRS. H. H. MEIER & Co.

GENTLEMEN, — I have agreed with your friend Mr. Motz to send my brig "Dryade," Captain Wilson, to Bremen and to consign to your house with one hundred hogsheads of tobacco and twenty-five bales of cotton on my account. He has agreed to furnish two hundred hogsheads of tobacco on freight at the low rate of forty-five shillings sterling per hogshead and five per cent primage; one hundred hogsheads of his ship-



ment he informs me is to be made by his friend Mr. S. Parkman, Jr., the balance of her cargo is to be procured on freight and we shall get as much of it consigned to you as possible, but as Alexandrians are in the habit of shipping to Amsterdam I expect some difficulty in filling her up. I contemplate making large purchases of cotton in Charleston this winter, therefore it will be convenient for me to receive as large an advance on my part of this cargo as it may be safe and convenient for you to make, which Mr. Motz assures me you will do. I wish all the freight money due on freight out, which is to be sterling, remitted to Samuel Williams, Esq., London, for my account. Such advance as the Captain may want for his disbursements in the port and refitting his vessel I hope you will furnish him, and such further advance as you shall feel safe in making upon my part of the cargo (which I hope will be to amount of the invoices or near it) I wish delivered to the Captain in specie, who will take it on board privately for safety. I hope you will afford all the despatch possible to the vessel.

Mr. Goddard's eldest son, Frederic Warren Goddard, to whom allusion has been made in the foregoing letters, then a youth of nineteen,

had sailed on the 21st of June of the preceding year (1819) in the ship "Triton" for Liverpool with the purpose of making an extended journey abroad. The trip was undertaken in the hope that it might result in the restoration of his health, which had been feeble since his childhood, and the object of much solicitude to his parents. His illness took the form of a distressing malady of the eyes occasioning frequent and violent attacks of severe pain; its exact nature is not known beyond the fact that it was of a grave character and of more than doubtful susceptibility to cure. At the time of the following correspondence he was travelling in Switzerland in the company of Mr. Alexander Trotter, Jr. of Edinburgh, whose acquaintance he had made in April of that year (1820) when the two young men were inmates of the household of Mr. Albert Eymar, a clergyman of Geneva. Extracts from Mr. Trotter's diary, sent by him to Mr. Goddard, show that since the 10th of August they had travelled, by diligence and on foot, from Lausanne to Neuchâtel and Berne, and thence by way of Soleuse and Lucerne to Zurich. In the diligence to Soleuse they had made the acquaintance of Henry Crabb Robinson and in Lucerne were introduced by him to William Wordsworth and his travelling party, consisting

of his wife and sister and Mr. Monkhouse. In the company of these pleasant friends they visited the neighboring places of interest in and about Lucerne, leaving on the 19th of August for Zurich. On the 22d, about five o'clock in the afternoon, they embarked in a small open boat for Richtenschwyl at the lower end of the lake. They had gone about three miles when a violent squall arose, a heavy wave struck the boat, and both young men leaped into the water in an effort to reach the shore, less than two hundred yards distant. In this Mr. Trotter was successful, but his companion, not so strong and encumbered by heavy clothes, sank and was drowned.<sup>1</sup> The first intelligence of his death reached his father on the 21st of October in a letter from Messrs. Welles & Williams of Paris to Messrs. J. & B. Welles of Boston, enclosing a communication dated August 23 from Messrs. Finsler, Frères & Co. of Zurich, bankers to whom Frederic Goddard had taken letters of introduction and credit. Mr. Trotter's letter which follows (although of earlier date) evidently did not reach Mr. Goddard until later.

<sup>1</sup> He knew how to swim, and even swam in the lake with Mr. Trotter a short time before the accident.

GENEVA, September 3, 1820.

MR. NATHANIEL GODDARD.

SIR, — It is with great grief that I am obliged to announce to you the melancholy accident that your son Frederic met with on the 22nd of August while making with me a trip in Switzerland, but I undertake the painful task in the hope that it may prove some consolation to his afflicted parents to be made acquainted with the details of the sad event which has deprived them of a son whose amiable qualities have endeared him to all who knew him. About five o'clock in the afternoon of the 22nd your son and I embarked at Zurich in a small boat intending to sleep at Richtenschaff,<sup>1</sup> a small town near the southern extremity of the lake. In less than half an hour after our departure we were overtaken by a violent gale. We tried to reach the banks, but in vain, for the force of the wind plunged the boat headlong into the water. It was instantly filled at a distance of about 150 or 200 yards from the shore. We attempted to save ourselves by swimming, but your son unfortunately jumped from the side of the boat furthest from shore. He was further embarrassed by the weight of his clothes which must have rendered him incapable of making the exertion necessary to save himself.

<sup>1</sup> Richtenschwyl.

Notwithstanding the greatest exertions the inhabitants of the village did not succeed in finding the body of your unfortunate son until the morning following, when it was brought to the house of Mr. Keller, who received me most hospitably and treated me most kindly during my stay at Küssnacht near which the accident happened. It would gratify you extremely could you form any idea of the interest which all the neighborhood took in the unhappy fate of your amiable son, perishing so far from his native land in the generally tranquil waters of their lake. You would be equally gratified could you know with what kindness Mr. Keller undertook to oversee the necessary preparations for the interment, which took place on the 24th in all the modest simplicity which adorns a Swiss ceremony. I shall send you a copy of the beautiful and affecting discourse which was pronounced on the occasion by the clergyman of the village and which made a deep and sensible impression upon the hearers. The body of your son was interred in the churchyard of the village of Küssnacht in a conspicuous situation close to the northeast side of the church nearly opposite the gate of the burying ground. The funeral was attended by all the respectable inhabitants of Küssnacht and by many gentle-



men from Zurich and from the neighboring parishes, forming a procession of about one hundred persons. The village of Küssnacht is pleasantly situated on the lake near Zurich in a fertile and beautiful country. It is much visited by strangers residing in town or passing through this interesting country. Their attention must be attracted by the simple monument of black marble which is to be placed on the spot where the remains of your dear son are deposited, and a short inscription will inform the passing traveller of his country and of the melancholy event that brought him to an untimely grave. Allow me as a friend of your dear son to offer my condolence to Mrs. Goddard and to your family and believe me to be with respect, sir, your obedient and devoted servant.

ALEXANDER TROTTER.

Under the same date the Rev. Albert Eymar writes as follows:—

MR. N. GODDARD.

SIR, — I yield to the necessity I feel of communicating my grief and regrets to the father of our dear friend Goddard. You will participate with me in the relief I find in reverting to the time we had the happiness of possessing your amiable son; it is with this hope that I take the



liberty of writing to you. Your son, dear sir, arrived at Geneva at the beginning of April with the intention of remaining in our city six weeks, after which he proposed travelling through Switzerland. Mr. and Mrs. Capt, with whom he became acquainted in Paris, engaged him to take lodgings at our house, thinking he would find with us those attentions that his health required and could pursue with greater facility the study of the French language. Our residence in the country, the happy change that had taken place in the disorder of his eyes, and especially the friendship that soon united us induced him to prolong his visit to four months. These four months, which to us appeared only as a moment and which we incessantly call to mind, taught us to appreciate the amiable and valuable qualities of your son. His goodness, his charming gayety, his amiability spread a charm and animation throughout our dwelling which have ceased with him. The cares we were called upon to bestow upon your child augmented our affection for him; we wished that the desire for instruction which he evinced in so great a degree might be satisfied otherwise than by studies which fatigued his eyes, and we consequently passed with him the greatest part of each day and every day disclosed to us something more to love. Our intercourse

became that of friendship. He had a thousand civilities for my wife; he was pleased to give her lessons in the English language with that patience and sweetness which characterized him; he was a third party in all our walks and when business sometimes carried us from home we were always sure to see our dear Goddard coming to meet us at our return. He desired a month since to visit our glaciers, and we determined to accompany him together with a young Scotchman named Trotter who was placed under my care, and to whom your son was much attached. This excursion gave us the satisfaction of remarking that a little stronger exercise so far from exhausting your son strengthened his health; therefore when he expressed his wish to visit Switzerland during the present season I could not but approve the plan. He proposed to take this journey on foot and he departed with his friend Trotter who could not resist the pleasure of becoming his companion. We were waiting their return, we were about to set out to meet them when the dreadful news of your son's death filled our hearts with dismay. I have requested Mr. Trotter to give you the particulars. I shall not revert to them. It remains for me, dear sir, to point out to you the consolations which I hope may mitigate your grief. I believe your son

would in this world have had a painful path to tread. In looking to his restoration to health we abandoned ourselves to a visionary hope; although there was a great change for the better in his constitution since he had been in Europe, yet it was impossible for him to resolve with certainty on any profession and his disorder returned at intervals in all its violence. During his residence with us he experienced two of these excesses which lasted some days and his sufferings excited in us the most painful feelings. After one of these attacks we urged him to consult Messrs. Butini and Maunoir, distinguished physicians of our city. We had the grief to perceive that these gentlemen had very little hope of effecting a cure in his eyes. Mr. Butini told us explicitly that it was necessary to fix an issue upon each arm of the young man, to keep them there for six years, and possibly he might recover. Your son was shocked at this proposal and preferred conforming himself to the advice of Mr. Maunoir, which tended to the same end by slower means. He placed blisters upon him which he continued until his departure for Switzerland. All the conversations of this dear young man evinced the certainty he felt that he could not recover. More than once we have seen his grief at the thought of his imagined uselessness in the world; the soul had desires

which the feebleness of his constitution would never have permitted him to satisfy. The activity of his mind, the anxiety to apply his talents to studies which might enable him to fill a useful station, all these happy dispositions made him look with dread on the prospect of the ill that obstructed his path. And indeed, sir, Providence in raising him from this earth has spared him a career of suffering.

. . . . .

Enclosed with this letter was an extract from the "Gazette" of Zurich of August 25, in which was printed the funeral discourse of Rev. Mr. Hess, the pastor of Küssnacht.

On the 21st of October Mr. Goddard writes to Messrs. Welles and Williams in Paris, as follows:

GENTLEMEN, — This day the melancholy tidings of the death of our eldest son near Zurich was communicated to us through your particular attention. We cannot express our feelings on this occasion; none but parents can conceive of them. This son, from his infancy an invalid, had nearly arrived to manhood; it has always been the object of his parents to preserve pure his morals, to cultivate a love of virtue as well as a desire for information. His feeble health had been nursed and his life preserved until this fatal

accident, and with a hope of finding relief from his complaints he set out on a tour through Europe. In all the places he has visited he found friends and has spoken of them in the highest terms of gratitude and affection; they have supplied the places of parents, brothers and sisters, but he had no way of returning the favors he received; he felt and expressed in all his letters a sense of the obligations he felt under and particularly those attentions and kindnesses received from you, your families and friends. We also feel the obligation and it has made an impression on our minds never to be effaced. Can we ever repay those conferred on him far from home among strangers? It operates doubly on us; would to God we could return such kindnesses to you and yours as you bestowed on him. I know not how the state of his funds were, whether he has left anything unpaid in Geneva, or what expenses may have arisen in consequence of his death and the search after, and when found the burial of his body. It would give much consolation to learn that his body has been decently interred in a Christian burying place. After the many and great favors we as parents and he as a son have received from you, can it be possible that we can ask more? Yet we would venture to express our wishes. They are that you will make



provision for the payment of all the pecuniary debts and just charges of every kind as well at Zurich as at Geneva. Mr. J. S. Capt and lady have been particularly friendly, and to them I must refer you for his former place of residence which was in the vicinity of Geneva, distant about three miles, in the family of a clergyman by the name of Eymar, of whom he has spoken in the highest terms: they treated him like a son and with all the affection and tenderness of parents; he was greatly attached to them and often spoke of them in the highest terms of friendship and love. Please reward them for his board, etc., if the same is not paid to them; we also feel under the greatest obligations. When you shall have discharged his debts we have one thing more to request, an all important thing to soothe the feelings of his mother and other friends; to wit, that everything that can be found of his, even the smallest scrap of paper, as well as his trunk, portmanteau, clothing, even those if found in which he was drowned, marked that we may know them, every trinket and ornament if any are to be found either in Zurich, Geneva, or elsewhere, may as soon as possible be carefully packed up, secured, and sent by the most direct conveyance to the United States for us. Spare no expense that is necessary to get them. Please



also to give us every information you can procure upon the subject relative to his residence and tour through Switzerland and Geneva, and every charge of yours shall be discharged and the gratitude of distressed parents will be felt and expressed by us. I shall have a vessel in Antwerp and will write there to Messrs. Mertens, Mosselman & Co. and also to Mr. Williams of London to pay the amount of your drafts to discharge every pecuniary obligation, and you will please to draw on either. If the body of our son has been found and buried in the earth, please to order that grave stones with his age and such other inscriptions as Mr. Eymar may furnish, may be placed at the head and foot, that the place may be found if hereafter sought for; and if his remains are entombed please to have such a record made as that they may be found at any future period and furnish us with the inscription and record. His name was Frederic Warren Goddard, son of Nathaniel and Lucretia Goddard, born in Boston October 25, 1800, being in the twentieth year of his age.

BOSTON, October 21, 1820.

MR. ALBERT EYMAR.

DEAR SIR, —This day the distressing intelligence of the sudden and awful death of our eldest and beloved son reached us through the attention

of our friends, Messrs. Welles and Williams of Paris. A few days previously we had received a letter from him dated 30th July at Geneva, written in good spirits and in which he was almost at a loss for words to express his gratitude to yourself and lady for your unbounded attention to him, and the particular favors received caused him to love and respect you as parents. The correctness of his morals and his conduct through this life and his belief in and dependence on God for a future and blessed state of existence console us much; his love and respect for you and his obligations and gratitude are transferred from his to our breasts; we feel the obligation, we feel grateful in his behalf and we shall never forget amongst his friends yourself and lady. When we heard of this melancholy event his body had not been found, but we hope it has since been and decently interred. I have requested in this event, if buried in the earth that grave stones may be erected one at the head and one at the foot, to give his name, his age, time of his death, where he was born and of what parents, with such other inscription as you may furnish, and if entombed that a record may be made that a friend passing may find the spot. We have one more request to make, namely, that you will furnish us as well and correctly as you

can with an account of him, his conduct and his travels, while in your view and within your knowledge; also an account of this last and fatal journey, the name and place of abode if you can of the young gentleman who was accompanying him in this pedestrian tour and anything further that may occur to your mind that took place after you knew him. We shall also address a line to Mr. and Mrs. Capt, of whose particular kindness he has often and with gratitude spoken.<sup>1</sup>

In similar terms of grateful recognition and appreciation Mr. Goddard wrote to Mr. and Mrs. John S. Capt in Geneva, to Mr. Keller at Goldbach near Zurich (Appendix E), to whose earnest efforts were due the recovery and burial of his son's body and the placing of memorial stones to mark the spot and the event, to the Rev. Mr. Hess, the pastor of the church at Küssnacht, and to Alexander Trotter, Frederic's devoted friend and surviving companion of the fateful journey. From each of them he received acknowledgments of his letters and renewed assurances of friendly and affectionate interest, Mr. Trotter's reply being dated at Godesberg, Prussia, October 1, 1821.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Capt had already written to Mr. Goddard under date of September 11.

MY DEAR SIR, — You will I am afraid think me very negligent in not having before this acknowledged your kind letter of the 9th of November, which has not, however, been very long in my possession owing to its having been sent in mistake to my father who was then at Rome and who kept it until he saw me in person at Geneva. You are good enough to tell me that you will be happy to hear from me and to be informed by me of any particulars relating to your son during the time that I had the pleasure of being his companion. I have delayed complying with your request till I had once more visited the place where the sad accident happened to him, in order that I might be thus enabled to give you some details of what has been done with regard to the monument which has been placed over his grave. In this respect I have great satisfaction in assuring you that I found everything arranged in a manner which would gratify you could you be witness of it, as all your wishes seem to have been anticipated by Mr. Keller who kindly undertook the accomplishment of them. The monument, which is extremely simple, is placed against the church immediately over the grave. It consists of a black slab of marble, and bears in golden letters an inscription of which the following is a translation: —

C'EST ICI QUE REPOSE  
FREDERIC GUILLAUME<sup>1</sup> GODDARD  
DE  
BOSTON EN AMERIQUE  
UN JEUNE HOMME DE DIXNEUF ANS  
QUI LOIN DE SA PATRIE  
TROUVA DANS UNE TEMPÊTE  
AU LAC DE ZURICH  
LUTTANT CONTRE LES VAGUES SA MORT  
IL MOURUT À GOLDBACH PRÈS DE KÜSSNACHT  
LE 22 AOÛT 1820

Another stone has been erected on the spot opposite the place where the body of your son was found, but of these Mr. Keller is, I understand, to send you, if he has not already done so, a detailed account. It will perhaps be more interesting for you should I dwell rather upon what happened to us during the time that we were together, as you will, I fear, be able to collect little information on this head from the scattered papers of your son which I sent you from Geneva. For this purpose I take the liberty of enclosing a short account of our tour which is merely an extract from my journal, but which may prove interesting to you, informing you of what we saw on our excursion and of the manner in which it was performed. You must from his letters be aware of the manner in which he lived at Geneva. I had been an in-

<sup>1</sup> An error for "Warren."

mate with him in the house of Mr. Eymar since the month of April 1820, and a similarity of dispositions and sentiments had during these few months formed between us a most intimate friendship. I consequently knew him well and from my own feelings can judge how severely his loss must have been felt by a family by whom he could not but be beloved. I am happy to observe the resignation with which you bear so great a loss. It must be a consolation for you to think that he has been taken from a world which from his weak constitution he could never have enjoyed. It seems indeed to be the interposition of a kind Providence to have freed him from a life which, had it been spared to him, would probably have been a continuation of those sufferings which have preyed upon him from his earliest years. It must, however, be a much greater consolation for you to reflect upon the exemplary manner in which he conducted himself while in this world. You may judge that his conduct was unaltered from the time he parted with you by the number of friends which he formed for himself in Europe, not one of whom but loved and esteemed him and will deeply lament his loss. I most sincerely thank you for your kind wishes for myself. Should any chance lead me to your side of the Atlantic (of which, however, at present



there is not the smallest probability) I should be most happy to avail myself of the opportunity of seeing you. If, what is more probable, any of your sons should visit Europe, I need hardly say how happy it would make me to see them in England and to revive in them that friendship which I had for your Frederic. May I beg to present the united wishes of my family, who are now with me, for your happiness and that of your children. And believe me, my dear sir,

Your sincere and affectionate friend,

ALEXANDER TROTTER, Junior.

Accompanying this letter are the extracts from Mr. Trotter's diary already alluded to, covering the days between the 10th and 22d of August.

Wordsworth's "Elegiac Lines" are from the "Memorials of a Tour on the Continent in 1820":

. . . . .

If foresight could have rent the veil  
Of three short days — but hush ! — no more !  
Calm is the grave and calmer none  
Than that to which thy cares are gone,  
Thou victim of the stormy gale  
Asleep on Zurich's shore.  
Oh, Goddard ! what art thou ? A name,  
A sunbeam followed by a shade ;  
Nor more, for aught that time supplies,  
The great, the experienced, and the wise ;

Too much from this frail earth we claim,  
And therefore are betrayed.

. . . . .

[Appendix F.]

The following letters are further extracts from Mr. Goddard's business correspondence up to the time at which the continuous record ends:

BOSTON, November 20, 1820.

MESSRS. WALN & MORRIS,

Philadelphia.

GENTLEMEN, — Your favor of the 13th of October giving account of sales, etc., was duly received, which I presume are correct. I am glad business is reviving; it has with us been very dull for a long time, and it has been truly unfortunate for your section of the country as well as ours that there has been no market abroad for flour and wheat, but the crops uniformly, so far as our knowledge extends, have been abundant. I contemplated being out of the Bank before this time and being able to attend to business, which would have been much for my interest, and I thought I had made up my mind so fully on this subject that nothing by way of persuasion could have kept me longer; but I have yielded to the solicitations of the stock holders and must remain another year. Please to accept my thanks

for the barrel of most excellent sweet potatoes by the "Native," they are a luxury our part of the country does not produce and that is seldom to be obtained here in perfection. Please to give Mrs. Goddard's and my best respects to Mrs. Waln and accept yourselves my best wishes for your happiness.

BOSTON, December 7, 1820.

AMOS A. WILLIAMS, ESQ.,

Baltimore.

DEAR SIR, — Your favor of the 28th ult. is before me and I observe its contents. It is extremely distressing to find our friends whom we highly respect in adversity and who are thus placed by the accidents of others and not by their own errors or negligence; at the same time it affords a consolation, a sweet satisfaction which no enemy can deprive them of, that this is the sole cause and it is a foundation on which future prosperity will firmly stand; like gold tried in the fire it has stood the test, for I have never heard even the breath of slander whisper an unfavorable word against you. I know you must have suffered in your property and in your feelings, but I did not know that it had taken the greatest portion of your property; be assured I can and do sympathize with you in this distress-

ing business, and also for those of your friends who have suffered with you. But the loss of property is not the heaviest loss we are liable to sustain, I know by experience; at the commencement of the last war I was an underwriter to a considerable amount, having at that moment upwards of five hundred thousand dollars at hazard in vessels unarmed, surrounded by cruisers, and many in ports of our enemy, who, having been engaged in a long war, were armed at all points. Under these circumstances I could see nothing but the horror of ruin; I fully realized poverty and all its attendant train of distresses, but I did not despair; I was fortunate and paid all the loss and suffered only about sixty thousand dollars. After the peace, say in 1817, 1818 and 1819, on the decline of trade and depression in the value of every article I possessed I again suffered a loss of about as much more. Then surrounded by a numerous family of children, of whom I had ten in number looking to me for their education, I then thought I had suffered severely, but I was ignorant of what suffering was. On the twenty-first of June my eldest son, who was afflicted with ill health and for whom we had done everything that physicians here could prescribe, took a voyage to Europe, and after having travelled through Scotland, England and France and

spent many months in the latter kingdom had acquired the language very perfectly and improved his health in a great degree. He then visited Geneva, spent much time in his studies, and from that city in company with a young gentleman from Scotland he undertook a pedestrian tour through Switzerland. On the fatal 22nd of August last he was passing from Zurich across the lake of the same name, only one league in width, in a small boat, when a violent squall arose and filled the boat and my son was drowned. The news of this fatal accident which has overwhelmed our family with grief reached me on the 21st of October. Till this I found that I knew not what trouble was, this I found was adversity; but we yet have much to be thankful for. We have nine children yet spared to us from whom we hope to reap much enjoyment. I would not trouble you with this long account, but "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Be assured if I can in any way put business of my own into your hands that may afford you profit, or induce others to put theirs, it would give me a great deal of pleasure, for be assured my confidence is unabated.

BOSTON, December 28, 1820.

STEPHEN DUTTON, Esq.

DEAR SIR, — I have reflected on the subject of what we were conversing upon last evening, and conclude that under present circumstances it will not be for my interest to have a ship built agreeably to your agreement with my brother, with the little variation named in size, at Newburyport at a higher rate than twenty-two dollars per ton carpenter's tonnage and do the caulking myself. This will bring the vessel at nearly twenty-four dollars per ton, at which rate I am informed I can have one built at Medford which by being near home will save some expenses of transportation of stores, etc. It is true that some trifling expense may be saved in the spars and boats in Newburyport, but not to make it much of an object. And considering the saving you may make in the moulds, in the caulking and the advantage to be taken of long days, I think you could afford to build her; but I will not urge the thing, for the mortification that would arise from having you lose money by building her would be more than a balance for any profit I can expect to derive from the vessel. Should you on further calculation think you could build one and let me know in two or three days, I see no obstacle to our contracting.



Mr. Goddard subsequently contracted, February 2, 1821, with Mr. Dutton for the building of a ship at twenty-two dollars per ton, as aforesaid.

BOSTON, January 27, 1821.

MESSRS. L. J. MERTENS, MOSSELMAN & CO.

GENTLEMEN, — My last was of the 6th current via New York and informed you that the “Grampus” and “Ventrosa” had sailed for your port with full cargoes of cotton; the “Governor Brooks” has orders if disengaged on my letters reaching there to follow with a full cargo also, unless prime rice can be had at certain limits which I do not expect; in that case she will take a part of that article. I expect she will be ready to sail by the first of February, weather permitting, for your port. I requested you to remit Mr. Williams four thousand pounds from the “Grampus” cargo and three thousand pounds from the “Ventrosa’s” cargo, or authorize Mr. Williams to draw immediately on their arrival and to furnish specie for them to return with, to as great an amount as you were willing to advance on their cargoes in addition to the remittances to Mr. Williams, and at the same time was rather inclined to advise an early sale. I remain of the same opinion but at the same time leave it to your judgment. I shall want to the

amount of twenty thousand dollars in specie sent by the "Governor Brooks," Captain Bishop, to New Orleans, that I may be enabled to load her there provided freight cannot be had on good terms; the balance of hers as well as of the other cargoes I wish promptly remitted to Mr. Williams. Finding that five franc pieces continue to be the tender in the United States until the 29th of April, these may be the best specie for remittance in all of my vessels. The "Dryade" has not yet arrived but I daily expect to hear from her. I hope you will see that these vessels meet good despatch.

Beyond the letters relating to the case of the "Ariadne," there is no correspondence existing which throws any light upon the perils to merchant shipping arising from the difficulties with Great Britain in the troubled years preceding the War of 1812 or during the war itself, save one or two incidental references, as in the letter of December 7, 1820, to Mr. Amos A. Williams; but allusion in the letters here given, covering the years 1818 to 1821, seems to show that possible attack or at least annoyance from pirates was among the dangers included in the risks of a voyage. It would appear that Mr. Goddard's ships carried light armaments to meet such contingen-

cies (see letter of March 6, 1819, to Captain Allen) and memoranda of later years (1843-44) show that he sold or otherwise disposed of "ships' guns, muskets, carbines, cutlasses and boarding-pikes," together with a considerable quantity of iron shot (cannon balls), being in part the armaments of the brig "Tartar" and the barque "Frederic Warren."

No record of correspondence has been preserved covering the periods between February 1821 and December 1828, and between January 1832 and December 1834, but the following extracts dated at intervals during the intervening and succeeding years will serve to further indicate Mr. Goddard's business interests and activities at home and abroad. Several of these contain frank statements of his financial condition and illustrate in some degree the embarrassment and stress to which New England merchants were subjected in the years immediately following the panic of 1837, and reveal the solicitude which he personally felt in regard to the meeting of his liabilities promptly as they accrued, in accordance with the standards of business as then conducted and with his own unswerving adherence to these in their strictest construction.

BOSTON, September 2, 1829.

TIMOTHY WIGGIN, ESQ.

SIR,— Your several favors of the 5th of August have been duly received and I noted their contents for which I thank you. I notice the observation in yours of the 6th ult. that “there is much want of confidence—this rests chiefly on the knowledge that business is generally unprofitable.” This is certainly correct so far as business is done on the capital of others and not on any solid property of their own, and this is too much the case, and the same want of confidence reaches here to the above description of persons and very justly. We have had many failures and some that I consider criminal in a great degree; they filch from the owner property not subjecting themselves to a criminal suit that they dare not go on the highway and demand, and which would not be more unjust. I think we shall have many more failures, for I do not think that half the people trading are solvent. Business is bad indeed when we cannot make the freight for the vessels by loading them ourselves, and such has been the case the last season. Upon the whole my vessels are profitable, but they did not make half what they ought to have done. It may be acceptable to you to have me state occasionally the manner in which I con-

template remunerating you for my drafts, etc., that you may not feel uneasy or risk anything with me in a pecuniary way, and I believe the statement will be found to be correct, or rather that the property is not overrated upon the whole which is on the way and destined to your hands.

From the Trescott's voyage to Antwerp	say £	750
“ “ Louisa at St. Petersburg by Mr. Mitchell		3500
“ “ Columbia's last cargo by F. B. Gossler		1580
“ “ Ventrosa's cargo at Bremen, a balance		2000
“ “ Apthorp's cargo to Hamburg (my half)		2250
“ “ Gov. Brooks' cargo of sugars		7000
“ “ Grampus' cargo to Antwerp		3850
“ “ Trescott's present cargo to Hamburg and freight	say	5000
“ “ Columbia's cargo, my half of sugars, uncertain, but presume		7000
		<u>32930</u>

I have not yet received the “Columbia's” invoice but expect it hourly. I presume she left Havana very early this month and that news of her arrival at Bremen will reach you as soon as this. The “Grampus” and “Ventrosa” both arrived here on the 18th current; I have not yet concluded what to do with them. I believe that business will be dull the ensuing season, but it may be otherwise.

BOSTON, November 20, 1829.

TIMOTHY WIGGIN, Esq.

SIR,—Since my last the “Louisa” has arrived here safe from St. Petersburg, and when discharged I shall send her to New Orleans where I have engaged two-thirds of her freight and the other third I am to put in for my own account. I am not quite certain but expect she will go to Havre; the proceeds of adventure and freight will be remitted to you. I have sent the “Apthorp” to St. Thomas, thence to Charleston for freight or to be loaded for owner’s account. The “Ventrosa” has gone to Charleston for freight and if it cannot readily be had she will load for my account; I have funds there for the purpose. The “Beta” has gone to Savannah to load with rice or rice and cotton per contract for Antwerp. I have not yet heard of the arrival of the “Governor Brooks” at New York nor have I fully concluded what to do with her when she does get in if freight does not immediately offer for her at that place; I may order her here to be ready to send to Havana for the first good white sugars of the new crop. I have nothing from the “Columbia” since she left Havana on the 3rd of September for Bremen.



BOSTON, March 10, 1830.

MR. GEORGE A. GODDARD.

DEAR SON, — . . . I am extremely grieved at Mr. Bruce's state of health<sup>1</sup> and fear from the circumstance of this being a family complaint that he will not survive it; he will be a great loss to the community. Immediately on receiving information of his state of health I made it known to some of his nearest friends, amongst them to his brother William at Bangor, who in reply to my letter states that he shall be here to-day or to-morrow to receive him. I expect hourly to see him, and as the wind is now strong at south-west his brother may be here soon. Lucretia<sup>2</sup> has written a letter to Mary under date 30th December at Rome; all are well but they had a dreadful snowstorm that day such as had not been known for thirty years. I presume it put them in mind of our winter; they say nothing about returning home but I think it most time as "All spending and nothing earning ought to hasten their returning." I have this moment in my hand a letter from Mr. Dumont;<sup>3</sup> himself, his wife and child are all well. He has been for

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Bruce was at this time associated with his son, George A. Goddard, as supercargo.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. B. A. Gould, then in Europe with her husband.

<sup>3</sup> Colonel John J. P. Dumont, a well-known politician and temperance advocate and a popular public speaker. Mr. Goddard had for some years the care of his property.

some time in Portland attending on important business for the town of Hallowell with the Legislature who on account of their disorganizing dispositions have not until very recently got organized so as to transact any business; he has now returned and is chosen to deliver an address on the important subject of temperance which he says has excited much interest in that section of the country. On Monday last he received from the Secretary of the State of Maine the intelligence of the unexpected honor of being designated as one of the Aides of His Excellency, Governor Huntoon, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel; this excludes him from the liability to military duty for life. Our family are all well and wish to be affectionately remembered to you. Business is excessively dull and will so remain whilst the tariff lasts. I suppose the girls have informed you that the boys <sup>1</sup> have parts at Cambridge; they have a Greek dialogue with a lad by the name of Lincoln <sup>2</sup> son to the Governor. "How we apples swim."

BOSTON, May 12, 1830.

TIMOTHY WIGGIN, ESQ.

DEAR SIR,—The ship "Columbia" is loading with flour at Alexandria for Liverpool and goes

<sup>1</sup> His sons Nathaniel and Benjamin, of the class of 1831.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Waldo Lincoln, Esq., of Worcester.

consigned to Messrs. George and John Smith; I have all ready to be shipped on board of said ship two thousand barrels of flour for my account and have requested the consignees to inform you of her arrival and remit any proceeds of adventure and freight less the ship's disbursements and a return cargo of salt; this remittance will amount to two thousand pounds. I have nothing from my other vessels yet, but have on hand ready for them nearly eighteen hundred bales of cotton, so that I hope they will meet with but a little detention in Charleston where four of the brigs are bound, though amongst the bales are many round ones that it will not be profitable to ship in small vessels and may be shipped to Liverpool in transient vessels that are larger. The "Ventrosa" is provided for at Havana and the Louisa at New Orleans; the latter vessel may have arrived there about this time as she left Havre on the 27th of March. I shall very soon be able to give you the destination of these vessels with the amount of their cargoes. Mr. Bruce who has for years been one of my agents in Charleston, and a very worthy one, has been sick and is now perfectly insane, and I fear will never recover. My son is at Charleston and will remain there until my vessels get away, when he will return here.

BOSTON, December 27, 1830.

TIMOTHY WIGGIN, ESQ.

London.

SIR, — Since my last to you under date of the 13th I have received circuitously advices of the loss of about four hundred boxes of sugar, burned at Antwerp by the fire caused by the cannonading and bombardment of the City. I have received no account direct from that place, nor did I receive this until late in the evening of the 22nd ult., too late to write to you by the last packet; this is unfortunate but cannot now be helped. I was aware that there might be some hazard and have not shipped anything there since we learned of the Revolution in France. This loss may amount to three thousand pounds sterling, in consideration of which I shall take this into consideration and draw on you for so much less than I consider within your control. I have just learned that the “Trescott” is on her way home; she was at Elsinore on the 22nd of November and if she comes north about we may expect her daily.

BOSTON, September 28, 1831.

TIMOTHY WIGGIN, ESQ.

SIR, — Since my last of the 5th the “Governor Brooks” has proceeded for and arrived at Baltimore for a cargo of Maryland tobacco for Bremen

and will probably sail thence in five days from this date. She goes consigned to the house of H. H. Meier & Co., who are ordered to remit the proceeds of her freight and our adventure to you, the probable amount of which we cannot with any degree of accuracy estimate. The "Grampus" sailed for Charleston for freight on the 10th; her prospect now appears poor and her destination thence is yet uncertain. The "Trescott" left New Orleans about the 10th with a full freight of cotton for Liverpool, but at a low rate, yet better than to go on owner's account. The "Apthorp," John Marshall, Master, sailed for India on the 24th current; the owners sent out specie as funds sufficient to load her if she succeeds to their wishes, but lest she be obliged to proceed to Calcutta, a dernier resort, we sent in her bills on you in favor of the captain at six months sight, approbated by your agent here, to the amount of two thousand pounds, which may or may not be used as circumstances may be. We are now fitting out the "Beta" for Calcutta, and may take the liberty to send out in the same manner bills on you for a part of her cargo. All the bills that may be used shall be seasonably provided for and we request that they may be honored when presented. The "Columbia" and "Ventrosa" are yet looked for and daily expected.

In order that all the remittances for our vessels and adventures hereafter may be placed to the proper accounts and in proportion as we own, we state that the brigs "Beta" and "Apthorp" belong half to Mr. B. A. Gould, and that one-third of the other half together with one-third of all the other vessels, to wit, "Columbia," "Louisa," "Trescott," "Governor Brooks," "Ventrosa" and "Grampus" belong one-third to Mr. George A. Goddard and the other two-thirds to Nathaniel Goddard. Mr. G. A. Goddard, desirous of changing his line of business, has become owner as above, in order to become more familiar with it. In adventures it is our wish, whether particularly specified or not, that all remittances from freights earned after this and all adventures may be placed to the several accounts as above stated and in the same proportions unless particularly requested otherwise.

BOSTON, April 28, 1831.

MESSRS. MONTGOMERY & PLATT.

GENTLEMEN, — . . . We think our Charleston friends mistaken in their estimate of the rate at which we can afford to carry cotton to Liverpool under the present and past encumbrances on commerce. We could not maintain vessels by carrying cotton at half a penny per pound, from



which you must have evidently perceived a general decline in it; those who had vessels on hand kept them moving in the hope of doing something better, or as the least of two evils, of hazarding their running for naught or rotting in the docks; very few new ones were built and these to outcarry those of former models, thereby to gain a little by this advantage. The building of this description was very keenly attended to and the prospect slim indeed until sundry favorable occurrences happened, and such a combination of them as may never occur again has raised this species of property nearly upon a level with that of other descriptions; but not yet equal to the manufacturing establishments, where they make instead of eight per cent from twenty-five to one hundred per cent and are strongly supported in it by Government who can see but one side of the business. Let Government reduce the enormous duty on sail cloth, both thick and thin, on copper bolts, on iron, hemp, chain cables, and articles important in building and equipping ships; then we can keep up, if not make it very profitable, our shipping to a proper establishment, compete with foreigners and carry cotton at a half penny and live; but under its embarrassed state it has been a losing business, and if not declined in the absolute number of tons, if it

has been stationary it shows a comparative decline with everything else. Agriculture, commerce and manufactures might be made to be mutually beneficial to each other, but when one is enormously taxed to support the other the taxed one must inevitably decline. The causes combined to raise the value of commerce are numerous and such as may never occur again and such as are not and cannot be lasting. They began with the loss of British whalemén, the destruction of the rope seed and grain crops on the continent of Europe, and consequently an enormous rise in the price of oil and bread stuffs; the former stimulated our whaleship owners to purchase a great number of ships, this took from the freighting business many vessels, and the latter brought into requisition a great number of vessels to transport our enormous crops of bread stuffs; we lost many more vessels at sea, etc., than is usual, for a large share of the vessels were growing old and there was, as before stated, no encouragement to build more; added to which the trade to India, Canton, and Spanish and Brazilian America became a little more encouraging. The disputes between the Belgians and the Dutch have prevented, as was anticipated, the Dutch Company from sending their ships to Java, etc., and a large number of ours have in

consequence been substituted, say altogether round the Cape of Good Hope about ninety ships; some more have been sent to Canton and round Cape Horn. Add to all these an immense crop of cotton, sugar from Cuba as well as the United States which takes many of our vessels, tobacco and the great variety of other exports from New Orleans for foreign and domestic markets, all of which bring into use vessels of some description. These circumstances combined have given a spring to commerce for a season, and it does appear to us and not to us alone that in Charleston where we have hoped to do business there has been a kind of understanding if not a combination amongst the merchants to keep down freights, and they have affected it so long that they have driven from their city many who are their best and most useful and profitable customers. They could not continue it without final bankruptcy, and they even now talk of distressing and alarming rates of freight. I have been so prolix that I cannot reasonably expect you will have patience to read it, but I could not forbear, as I have a feeling of interest for the success of Charleston greater than that of most any other place, as I have for a long time done business there; and in justice to them I must state in concluding that I have

found them more honorable in their transactions than in most other places. It is a great stimulus to the preservation of our intercourse.

BOSTON, January 2, 1832.

JOSEPH ANDERSON, ESQ.

SIR, — The subscribers, owners of the brig “Grampus” of Boston, respectfully represent that said brig sailed from Salt Key in the West Indies with a cargo of salt for this place. On arriving near the coast she encountered several severe gales of wind and was several times driven off the coast with great loss and damage. The captain, finding the brig in a sinking condition, both pumps hardly keeping her free, and crew nearly beat out with fatigue, and that a repetition of such gales must inevitably cause a total destruction of vessel and crew, commenced throwing over cargo to lighten and ease the vessel and, having the decks swept, sails torn to pieces, both boats lost, and all hands hardly able to keep the vessel above water, in this state almost of despair determined on trying for the first port. He has been able to make Charleston, S. C., where very extensive repairs must be made which will cause great expense and take much time before she can proceed to her original port of destination. The object of this is to request that

you will authorize or instruct the Collector of said port of Charleston to admit to entry at that port the remainder of the cargo at the present rate of duties, and thereby release us from the obligation of again encountering the winter storms on this coast at this inclement season.

BOSTON, December 21, 1835.

THOMAS L. THURSTON AND SAMUEL BURCH,  
ESQRS.

GENTLEMEN, — In my last covering a power of attorney in great haste I think I promised to give you some particulars relative to the voyage of the “Ariadne,” its origin, etc., but I kept no copy.

In August 1812 this ship was in Baltimore; war had then I think been declared against Great Britain and my property was much in vessels and real estate. I was at the time an underwriter to a considerable extent and my property much depreciated, I had a great family and destruction stared me in the face. Though I never for a moment despaired of fulfilling all my contracts, though loss after loss almost daily occurred by captures and detention of property abroad, my mind was fully made up to pay the last farthing even should it leave my family penniless. A gleam of hope appeared that we could use our vessels; and Captain Farris, for-

merly of the firm of Farris and Stocker who had lost their all and failed, found a friend in Mr. William Parsons who offered to assist him in some kind of business that should be thought to promise him a little for the support of his family. Captain Farris was then about sixty years of age and is yet living, and within a year or two has been a Representative in the General Court from Newburyport. It was suggested to Mr. Parsons that a voyage might be made to Cadiz to advantage with flour under Admiral Sawyer's license so-called; Mr. Parsons observed that although he was opposed to the war and the measures then pursuing, he would do no act that should be thought to be unlawful for the prospect of any profit whatever. His brother, our late Chief Justice, was consulted by him, whether the paper purporting to protect American vessels bound to neutral ports from capture by British cruisers was lawful; the Judge clearly and unhesitatingly pronounced this lawful pursuing a voyage to a neutral port, that it amounted to a forbearance to capture by cruisers under his command and recommendation to other of His Majesty's cruisers to let all such pass unmolested. All difficulty appeared at an end, for we had Mr. Gallatin's word, indirectly given at a dinner table verbally, that to use such protection was



not only lawful but laudable, for while it relieved our country by carrying off its surplus produce it strengthened it by bringing into it the sinews of war. All doubts of its illegality being removed the voyage was made up, more to relieve Captain Farris than as a source of much profit. A number of highly respectable merchants contributed to make up the cargo, the vessel then in Baltimore was to proceed round to Alexandria and complete her cargo (she then had on board about one thousand barrels of flour) which she did in good faith. Congress well knew of this trading and refused to pass a law prohibiting it and no one doubted of its being allowed, and as a proof of its being considered lawful, after the surplus crop of produce had gone to market Congress did pass a law prohibiting it; amongst the rest it was said Mr. Madison's crop of tobacco was purchased and shipped under one, but of this I know nothing. The vessel loaded and sailed and on or about the 15th of October the same year she was captured by the U. S. Brig of War "Argus," was sent into Philadelphia, there libelled, tried in Judge Peters' Court, cleared, and bond given for the property and it was restored (I perhaps ought not to make this public). The Judge saw the injustice of this vexatious capture and detention in so strong a light that he gave an Ad-

miralty pass to screen her from any cruisers. Messrs. Horace Binney and Joseph Hopkinson of Philadelphia were my counsel, and these gentlemen knew of the Admiralty pass, but thought I had better not name it, and I never have until now. This shows how our Courts at the time viewed it; but after the appeal to the Circuit Court this judgment was reversed and we appealed to the Supreme Court. Judge Story found some decision under some ancient king of Great Britain which was construed to embrace the case, and the vessel and cargo were finally condemned and the bonds paid. Ought it not to be borne in mind that every American merchant could not be expected to know all the decisions in a British Court of Admiralty? It may be well to observe that the ship sailed again from Philadelphia and performed her first contemplated voyage without molestation by any cruisers; no illicit business was done or ever intended to be done, but she was subsequently condemned though the judges did not all agree; but there was a majority on the Bench who did. When I first petitioned Congress for a relief it was for a moiety of the amount, to wit, so much as was paid into the United States Treasury only; at this time the Treasury was not overflowing or perhaps they would have granted the

prayer of my petition; they have used this money while they needed it and I have waited for justice. . . . Is there any impropriety in petitioning for the whole? I think you will find amongst the papers in Dr. May's possession Messrs. Pinckney and Purviance's opinion (the former I think was the Attorney General of the United States) of the legality of using such license. I have a copy of the paper called the license used by the "Ariadne" and if it would be of any use and none is found amongst the papers I will forward it. It is also fortunate for us that the amount of captures and condemnations for the above *heinous sin* is very small; I believe but one that stands on so fair a ground; one or two others out of their latitude were captured and perhaps justly condemned. On my first application to Congress my petition was committed to the Committee of Ways and Means, of which Mr. Lowndes of South Carolina was Chairman, the report to the House was in my favor and a bill was brought in of which I have a copy; the House went into a Committee of the Whole and it was decided against the report of the Committee. I have also in my possession a copy of my petition to Congress setting forth my reasons in support of my claim, etc.; if wanted it shall be forwarded, and if you have not a copy it may be useful.

BOSTON, April 7, 1836.

ABBOTT LAWRENCE, ESQ.

SIR, — I have a petition to Congress which will be presented by my agents Colonel Burch and Thomas L. Thurston, Esq. which probably you may see presented and may possibly recollect some of the circumstances when I relate them to you. It is in the case of the ship "Ariadne" and cargo sailing under a paper called a "protection" from Admiral Sawyer against capture by his squadron. This voyage was commenced with a view of assisting Captain Farris of Newburyport who had been unfortunate and had failed in his business. His particular friends were William Parsons, Esq., Messrs. Thomas C. Amory & Co., Messrs. James and Thomas H. Perkins, Samuel G. Perkins & Co., Thomas Parsons, and Samuel May, Esqs. with myself owner of the ship. Before this voyage was undertaken by the parties the late Judge Parsons was consulted and gave his opinion of the innocence and lawfulness of the voyage; the paper purported to be only a forbearance to capture, it was not liberty to visit a British port or afford them supplies. Congress knew this trade was carrying on, and refused to pass a law to prohibit it although solicited by President Madison to do it. Mr. Gallatin was consulted who pronounced it not only lawful but

laudable, as it carried from the country the surplus of produce and in return brought money and sinews of war. The opinions of Messrs. Pinckney, the first law officer in the Union, and Mr. Purviance of Baltimore were known and were afterwards given in writing in favor of the trade. Congress afterwards at the second request of the President, after the surplus produce of the country had gone to market, passed a law prohibiting that trade and the petitioners never after attempted it. This vessel was captured by the United States brig "Argus," sent into Philadelphia, tried in the District Court and cleared, and so positive was the Judge of the lawfulness of the transaction that he gave an Admiralty Pass to prevent any further detention by cruisers of the United States. This ship sailed from Alexandria with a cargo of flour September 12, bound to Cadiz; the vessel and the cargo were owned wholly by the petitioners and went solely on their account. There was no suspicion of its being enemy's property or that it was bound to an enemy's port or shipped with an intention of promoting any of his objects or views; the cause of condemnation was that it was an enemy's license, a forbearance to capture, and the whole offence was that she had that paper on board. The allied armies were not at that time in the



neighborhood of Cadiz and did not draw their supplies from that quarter. After a full hearing in the Court before named the Judge pronounced in favor of the innocence of the transaction, ordered the property to be restored and the captors to pay damages. The captors appealed to the Circuit Court where the decree was reversed; from this we appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States where she was finally condemned, I understand by barely a majority. Judges Marshall and Washington were in the minority.<sup>1</sup>

(Memo. Sent the original petition in lieu of this letter.)

BOSTON, September 5, 1836.

MESSRS. T. WIGGIN & Co.

GENTLEMEN, — Since my last I have coppered my barque and I find the copper to be very good. This vessel is called for my deceased son who was drowned in Lake Zurich in 1820, "Frederic Warren," burthen three hundred and sixty-three tons, is a large carrier, sailed for Calcutta last Friday evening, William W. Johnson, Master, Warren Gould, supercargo. She has on board a stock of \$260,000, the supercargo puts on board six hundred tons at \$20 per ton, perhaps from one to two hundred tons transient freighters. I

<sup>1</sup> The court held that the sailing under the enemy's license constituted of itself an illegal act, which subjected the property to confiscation whatever the object of the voyage or the port of destination. 2 Wheaton, 143.



have received from your agent Mr. Hooper certified bills to amount of five thousand pounds, and a credit of five thousand pounds wherein the captain is authorized to negotiate in case any accident should happen to the supercargo. I have also put on board \$10,000 in specie.

BOSTON, April 5, 1837.

MESSRS. T. WIGGIN & Co.

GENTLEMEN, — In order to be sure of a safe remittance reaching you, as I previously informed you I shipped some choice cotton with orders to have the same sold and proceeds paid over to you promptly, but the great panic in Liverpool has caused such a decline in price as will, I expect, produce a considerable loss, but it may be less than I might sustain by purchasing bills. At any rate, if a sacrifice must be made, it is proper and just that the debtor should make it and I am willing. A business life of almost fifty years has never before found me so delinquent as I have been in my transactions with you; but such a state in the mercantile community I believe never before existed.

BOSTON, August 13, 1838.

CAPT. WILLIAM W. JOHNSON.

DEAR SIR, — You being Master of the barque "Frederic Warren" now in this port ready for sea

and bound for Calcutta, will please to proceed to that port with all possible despatch. The vessel will be consigned to Mr. Horatio A. Lock who will take the passage with you as supercargo. He is to furnish a return cargo for the barque with as much despatch as possible, not exceeding sixty working days, and when loaded you are to return directly to this port. I wish you to take out your ballast, have the vessel ready to receive the cargo as it is furnished, and see that the same is stowed in the best manner. Mr. Lock is to furnish merchandise for cargo in such proportions of weight and measurement as will both load and fill the vessel. I estimate the barque's capacity at about ten hundred and twenty tons, but in order to get in the greatest quantity it will be necessary to attend very carefully to the stowage, and fill every small breakage which cannot otherwise be filled with hides or gunny-bags which Mr. Lock will furnish. . . . After you have taken in a sufficient quantity of saltpetre and heavy goods to ballast the vessel, please to distribute it throughout the whole length so as not to have an undue proportion of ballast or cargo in either end or in the middle, which might strain the barque as her length is great.

BOSTON, September 7, 1838.

CAPT. JOSEPH LINDSEY.

DEAR SIR,—The ship “Trescott” under your command is now ready for sea, bound on a voyage to Rio de Janeiro and New Orleans, by virtue of a contract with Mr. J. Adams Welsh who goes out with you as supercargo for the voyage. . . . If contrary to my expectations Mr. Welsh should be incapacitated by accident from attending to the business of the voyage, you are empowered to employ one of three parties designated in the letters of credit furnished to him to accomplish the object of the voyage, under the precise limits and restrictions which extend to him; and you will use your best judgment in such case, ascertaining as well as you can the standing of the houses and employing the ones which will be most likely to do you justice. If from the high price of coffee you should be unable to load the vessel under my contract with Mr. Welsh, please to see the above named houses as well as others and obtain the best business you can for the ship.

BOSTON, September 7, 1838.

CAPT. EDWARD C. NICKELS.

DEAR SIR,—We have chartered the barque “Tartar” to Messrs. Lewis Ashmun and George J. Foster for a voyage to the Cape of Good Hope and thence back to Boston by way of Europe,

and you are requested to proceed on said voyage under their instructions. We understand your first port of destination to be Sidney in New South Wales where you are to discharge your outward cargo. . . . And you are to be under the directions of the charterers whether to go to one or more ports in India before you sail for Europe, and in Europe you are likewise to be governed by their instructions in all things within and in conformity with the letter and spirit of the charter-party herewith committed to you.

BOSTON, November 20, 1838.

MESSRS. T. WIGGIN & Co.

GENTLEMEN, — . . . All my business through life has not caused me so much uneasiness as my business with you during the last two years. The injustice I have done you by not being punctual has grieved me exceedingly and gnawed on me like a cancer. It will never be blotted from my memory. Never before did I ask a creditor to wait an hour; but a combination of circumstances that cannot be enumerated combined to produce this fatal result. It was not for want of property or a disposition to make large sacrifices in order to accomplish the object, but a total inability to make it convertible to the desirable object.

BOSTON, January 27, 1839.

MESSRS. T. WIGGIN &amp; Co.

GENTLEMEN, — Unforeseen and very unexpected occurrences have delayed my remittance to you as a commencement of a new account which I have been very anxious to do, but I now fear that it will be delayed some time longer, to my great mortification, in consequence of some losses not expected and to a considerable amount, but which can only affect me temporarily; among which I have suffered one in particular of an extremely sensitive nature and attended with great disappointment. This, however, is the last of consequence to which I am vulnerable. I have met, suffered and paid losses (principally by failures) since the year 1828 to the amount of upwards of \$300,000 for which I shall probably receive nothing. But I thank God that it is no worse. I still feel that I have enough left to make me perfectly independent except at the moment of sudden calls, but for which I shall be obliged to make no more sacrifices, though I have previously been obliged to do so in order to meet them. I have never promised what I did not mean to perform and I anticipate the pleasure before long of having a respectable account with you founded on a sufficient capital of my own.

BOSTON, March 27, 1839.

MESSRS. LELAND BROS. & Co.

GENTLEMEN, — Your favor of the 21st is before me with an invoice of twenty-six whole and ten half casks of rice by the “Cervantes” annexed. I regret the bills of lading did not make it deliverable as requested on my wharf; the expense of wharfage and truckage will be more than the profit upon it. In addition I have other reasons for not receiving any goods of my importation elsewhere. I have a wharf worth \$350,000 and it is important to have my portion of business at it; all the wharves are warring against each other and the only inducement to importing it here is lost unless handled at my own wharf. I will thank you hereafter to let this be an insuperable objection to shipping anything to me here; if they will not contract to land it on my wharf from the vessel I do not wish the article sent to me.

BOSTON, August 14, 1839.

WILLIAM H. STOWELL, ESQ.

DEAR SIR, — Your favor of the 12th is at hand by which I notice the safe arrival of the schooner “Frances” and that the whale lines are landed in good order. Mr. Webber is at work on the tarred cordage, and from the best hemp, he



says, which he has seen this twenty years, and I will have none other manufactured. I shall not do as I have myself known my competitors to do, purchase musty hemp which I would not venture to put into anything but cotton balerope. But time will develop all these things. The only reason why I could not furnish the tarred cordage sooner was that I would not risk my reputation on any hemp then to be found in Boston. The agent of the Milldam Company must not undersell us; we can furnish it as low as they, and I will authorize the sale of mine as low as they offer theirs until it goes down to the cost, and then continue it there if necessary as long as you will sell it for me, if I live these ten years. . . . When others choose to sell at less than the cost they may go on . . . If they buy poor outshot or half clean hemp, they can, for a time, until it is known, furnish it at a less price; but I will not do this — I will have good or none.

BOSTON, October 12, 1839.

MESSRS. HOLFORD, BRANCKER & Co.

[New York]

GENTLEMEN, — When I wrote you on the 28th of August I had no idea of being compelled to vary from my intentions therein expressed; indeed I felt confident of coming fully up to the mark, but I have been much disappointed. I

shipped to New York for sale the goods by the "Frederic Warren" to the amount of fifty thousand dollars cost, and urged the sale of the same strongly, and I thought that it would have been effected so as to enable me to remit a considerable amount. I have drawn on the credit of these goods ten thousand dollars, leaving an amount of forty thousand dollars in goods at cost. But my friend has been unable to dispose of but very few; these, however, shall be holden there until you are paid. How my funds in England will turn out it is impossible for me to know, but I trust it will be quite as well as I have stated. I have ordered these remitted to Messrs. Holford & Co., London. I have also funds at the South which will be going forward very soon, which if they should be all sent forward soon enough would more than pay the debt. I have on hand about fifteen thousand dollars in Treasury notes which are here worth par in specie. There is no exchange on England here which I dare to buy, and I am also afraid to purchase drafts on New York to buy the bills there, lest, before I could get my funds on, the New York banks should suspend payment and exchange rise to ten or fifteen per cent above its present rate. I have tried every mode in my power to send you on funds, but as yet to very little purpose. In what

manner can I invest these fifteen thousand dollars? At what rate can sixty day bills on England be bought with New York bills if I should purchase a draft on New York and send on the funds? Will you please inform me? I am extremely anxious to do all I can and as fast as I can, but times like these I never saw before. You are perfectly safe, but that does not satisfy me and it would be strange if it did you. I have known something of business for nearly sixty years, but have seen nothing to compare with the present times. All I can add is that no exertion on my part shall be wanting to pay your demand.

BOSTON, March 20, 1840.

JOHN A. MERLE, ESQ.

DEAR SIR, — Your favor of the 7th current came to hand by the last mail, for which you will please accept my thanks. I am extremely sorry to learn that your prospects are not so bright as they were, but I feel the force of every word of your letter, as in the description of your misfortunes and their causes you have described my own precisely. Nearly all my property is in real estate, totally useless to me in the payment of debts, and upon which I did not calculate at all for this purpose. A few years since I had a sum in personal estate equal to all my wants and

to enable me to make all the improvements on the real estate which I thought might be necessary, But it was then flood tide and near high water with me; and the tide began to ebb, new channels for draining opened in every direction, and it seems that they could not much longer be supplied. Since the year 1828 I have lost personal property by misfortunes, and by failures of others principally, upwards of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and at times it has seemed almost impossible to meet them; even five thousand dollars has appeared to threaten to turn the scale. But I yet survive and have set out, at seventy-three years of age, to meet if possible every debt I owe without contracting a new one; and I hope I shall not be crushed in the undertaking. I can sympathize with you most sincerely, and I have hopes that when it shall again be flood tide for us both I may yet do a business with you which shall prove mutually beneficial. My confidence in your high and honorable standing is not in the least impaired. I have suffered beyond the power of description to those who have not felt the same, both by night and by day, and probably more so from the fact that at the commencement of business I set out with the determination to allow no one to ask a second time for money due them; and I adhered to this rule most rigidly for

nearly fifty years. Accept my best wishes for your future prosperity and happiness.

BOSTON, July 20, 1840.

JOHN A. MERLE, ESQ.

SIR, — Your favor of the 10th inst. came to hand in due season. It must be gratifying to you to be assured of the confidence of your creditors by their unanimous wish that you should be appointed sole syndic to the estate of Messrs. John A. Merle & Co. I have no doubt but in resuming business with your experience you will be successful, and I shall endeavor to contribute my mite towards it. The apparent loss of seventeen years of your life will not, I feel confident, prove a total one; but it will be the means of laying the foundation of a firmer fabric. It is an extremely dull season of the year with us and future prospects look dark and gloomy. During the past year I have suffered in property by failures and endorsements to the amount of more than ninety thousand dollars; and a great part of it coming upon me suddenly has temporarily cramped my available means, as so large a proportion of my property is in real estate and consequently not convertible; I have, however, made good progress in extricating myself.

BOSTON, March 18, 1841.

JOHN A. MERLE, ESQ.

DEAR SIR, — Yours of the 3rd came to hand on the 16th current and I am much disappointed at the tenor of it. I did hope, and with much confidence too, that the Texas note would have been paid long before this time, and I feel the disappointment the more on account of my want of money. . . . I feel the more alarmed as I perceive that the Texan government have it in contemplation to pass a law preventing the collection of any foreign debts for the term of five years, which in my case would be beyond my lifetime. I am old, but I may possibly live to reach New Orleans and Texas; and if not I may as well die there or on the way there as here; and if it is found necessary I will try it in the autumn if I live, and see if something cannot be done, or lose my life. The keeping back of this amount is a serious disappointment to me in addition to my other losses. I hope you will do all you can to hasten payment of the note above alluded to and thus prevent the necessity of my leaving home at this period of my life.

The foregoing business letters show in general the extent and manner of Mr. Goddard's commercial dealings so far as they relate to his own



ships. There are, however, from time to time allusions in his correspondence to shipments or ventures in other vessels for his account, a charter-party of the ship "Esther," Boston to Valparaiso, in which he was interested in December, 1821, showing that he was concerned in the South American trade at that time. He was also a buyer of rice through the Messrs. Leland at Charleston and was an importer of China teas and Calcutta goods. His dealings in Russia and Manila hemp were large and he at one time controlled the market for this staple in Boston. His importations of this were largely for the manufacture of cordage, spun yarn, etc., which was made up by Messrs. John Webber & Son at their rope walk in Roxbury and sold at Charleston, New Bedford and other ports.

In April, 1833, Mr. Goddard bought of the devisees of Edmund Hartt the property known as Constitution Wharf, originally "Hartt's Ship Yard," to which allusion is made in the Narrative. It is described as "bounding westerly on Lynn or Ship Street, now Ann Street, and easterly on the sea or channel, and extending to low water mark, with dwelling house (see Narrative), buildings, wharf and flats." The price paid was twenty-five thousand dollars. Mr. Goddard subsequently moved his counting-room to this

wharf, his offices being in the building nearest the street, but close to the dock, a memorandum of July 18, 1842, stating that he was paid for damage caused by the schooner "Lucy" of Wiscasset running her jib boom through his store and counting-room. In May, 1843, he began the rebuilding and extension of the wharf. It was his purpose to construct it with straight sides for greater facility in loading his vessels, but this, it was found on trial, left too narrow a base for the superstructure, and he was compelled to relay the foundations with a diving-bell, sloping the sides and building a pile wharf around it to give the straight sides required. In 1846 he built three brick stores on this wharf.

In March, 1845, Mr. Goddard sold Union Wharf, "including the part formerly known as Rhoades Wharf," to David Loring and Sewel F. Belknap; for this the purchase price in cash, notes and mortgages assumed by the purchasers was \$301,824.

In 1848 he sold Constitution Wharf to Eliphalet Baker and George Hill for \$200,000. There were mortgages on this property amounting to \$38,500, and for the remainder of the purchase money he received stock of the Portsmouth Steam Mills of Portsmouth, N. H. These mills were then engaged in the manufacture of lawns,

of which it was estimated they would produce 2,500,000 yards a year, the price for which in the New York market was approximately thirteen cents a yard. The business turned out to be not as represented, and a large part of the stock was a total loss to his heirs.

With these transactions the record of Nathaniel Goddard's business life closes. Of its remaining years (1848 to 1853) we know little beyond the fact that for much and perhaps most of this time his strength and vitality were seriously impaired by illness and for a long time he was able to go to his counting-room only at rare intervals.

In April, 1843, Mr. Goddard had sold his estate on Summer Street to Andrew Carney,<sup>1</sup> and passed the ensuing summer with his family in Dorchester, boarding in the house of Captain Eaton. In the autumn of that year he moved to No. 22 (now No. 60) Pemberton Square, owned by Nathaniel Hammond, Esq., and in August, 1847, he purchased the property. Pemberton Square was at this time an attractive place of residence, and contained the houses of many families of wealth and refinement. In the centre, opposite to where the Court House now stands, was a small oval park, enclosed by an iron fence. Here

<sup>1</sup> 35,234½ square feet for \$91,085.84, being at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents per square foot and \$3000 for the building.

he continued to live during the remaining years of his life. There were at this time five children living at home; three unmarried daughters, Louisa, Georgiana and Frederica, and two sons, Nathaniel and Benjamin. The eldest daughter, Lucretia Dana, had been married many years before (1823) to Benjamin Apthorp Gould, in early life the well-known Head Master of the Boston Latin School, and in later years a merchant. In February, 1835, Frances Dana, the fourth daughter, became the wife of Henry White Pickering, who was for some years in Mr. Goddard's counting-room and later (1845) a stock and exchange broker, succeeding to the business of George A. Goddard, his brother-in-law, on his death in that year. In November of the same year (1835) the second and third daughters, Henrietta May and Mary Storer, were married on the same day, the former to Edward Wigglesworth<sup>1</sup> of Boston, and the latter to Henry Weld Fuller of Augusta, Maine. Mr. Fuller, then a young lawyer, soon afterwards removed to Boston, where he later became Clerk of the United States Circuit Court. In May, 1841, George Augustus Goddard was married to Cornelia, daughter of

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Wigglesworth, who had graduated from Harvard College in 1822 with the first honors of his class and subsequently studied law, was never engaged in active practice, but gave his time and attention largely to educational and philanthropic pursuits.

Francis Amory, Esq., of Boston. February 2, 1848, Georgiana was married in the Pemberton Square house to John Adams Blanchard, a Boston merchant,<sup>1</sup> and June 5, 1849, Frederica Warren, the youngest daughter and child, to William Storer Eaton.

Fortunately for both parents and children, the homes of the latter as they successively married were established in Boston or its immediate neighborhood, and the family circle, thus happily enlarged, remained save in one instance unbroken until Mr. Goddard's death. On the 15th of May, 1845, his son George, while driving to Milton, where he made his summer home with his father-in-law, Mr. Amory, was thrown from his chaise at the corner of Northampton Street and Harrison Avenue and instantly killed. No one was with him at the time,<sup>1</sup> his sister Lucretia, who was then living in Roxbury, reaching him soon after the accident; but it is conjectured that he fell in endeavoring to recover the end of a broken rein, parted at the buckle, as the horse suddenly turned the corner of the street.

No sketch of the family would be complete which failed to mention the lifelong friendship which has existed and been strengthened by

<sup>1</sup> Of the firm of Blanchard, Converse and Harding, dry goods commission merchants.



ties of intermarriage between Mr. Goddard's household and that of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wigglesworth. The latter had lived for many years at No. 19 Franklin Place,<sup>1</sup> and the intercourse was one of constant and undeviating regard. All family gatherings within the memory of this generation have included as a matter of course the household from Franklin Place and later from No. 1 Park Street.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. Goddard's last illness, a cancer of the stomach, was of long duration, and its gradual advance excluded him by degrees from the active participation in business affairs, to which he had given his strength and vitality for so many years. It is difficult to determine the time at which the progress of the disease finally compelled his relinquishment of active work and attendance at the counting-room, but for several years after his removal to Pemberton Square his erect figure

<sup>1</sup> That part of the present Franklin Street immediately west of Federal Street. Here were built, in 1793, two rows of brick dwelling-houses, sixteen in number, the first blocks of connected dwellings erected in Boston. On the south side of the street these houses were in the form of a crescent, and in the middle of the street was a small enclosed park in which stood a monumental urn commemorative of Franklin. The houses being built on the "tontine" principle, although a charter to this effect was never obtained, Franklin Place was sometimes called "Tontine Crescent."

<sup>2</sup> These were held annually for many years at Christmas and New Year's time, beginning in 1842 at the house of Mr. Fuller, and afterwards, with few intermissions, at the houses of Mr. Pickering and Mr. Wigglesworth respectively; the New Year's parties are still continued by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pickering. (For an early invitation to family meetings, see Appendix G.)



was a familiar sight as he walked briskly through Pemberton and Scollay squares on his way to and from Constitution Wharf.

Two of his sons-in-law, Mr. Gould and Mr. Blanchard, were at this time his near neighbors, their houses being on the westerly side of Pemberton Square. His daughter-in-law, Cornelia Goddard, in 1850 married Charles G. Loring, Esq., and lived in Ashburton Place, and Mr. Eaton in Bussey Place. Mr. Fuller and Mr. Pickering were at this time living in Roxbury, and Mr. Wigglesworth at No. 4 Franklin Place.

Mr. Goddard died at his home in Pemberton Square on the 6th of August, 1853, at the age of eighty-six, his wife surviving him until January 21, 1866. Both are buried in Mount Auburn Cemetery.<sup>1</sup>

Nathaniel Goddard's life was essentially that of the merchant and man of business. He neither held nor seemingly cared for public office, holding "the private station to be the post of honor." In fact, his busy life almost precluded other occupation than the dealings of the street and market; yet, while the training of his life had been constantly directed to this goal, he was a close observer of public affairs, as is shown by the com-

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Goddard at one time owned, with his brother Benjamin, a tomb (No. 78) in the "Central Burial Ground" on Boston Common, to which allusion has heretofore been made.

ments contained in his correspondence. In his political views he was independent; while condemning the conduct of the government at the time of the Embargo, and its failure to protect American shipping interests, he was a believer in a strong executive and became a warm admirer of Andrew Jackson,<sup>1</sup> some of whose characteristics closely resembled his own, especially a firm persistence in a line of conduct once deliberately adopted.<sup>2</sup> His broad conceptions of fair trade between nations and his belief in the mutual advantages to be derived from its unfettered operation are seen in his letters and require no comment.<sup>3</sup>

A marked inclination to philosophic reflection, the outcome in part of a painfully acquired experience, and a keen sense of humor showed clearly in his common speech and conversation. Evidence of these is found in sundry bits of verse, homely proverbial sayings, and reflections upon life and character, written during the later years

<sup>1</sup> June 1, 1829, he wrote to Mr. B. A. Gould, "I am reconciled to Gen Jackson as President; it is understood that he is anti-tariff, and destruction that was aimed at commerce may yet be avoided, though it is at a very low ebb."

<sup>2</sup> His indignation at the removal of the figurehead from the frigate Constitution was well remembered by his children.

<sup>3</sup> "It appears at present that Congress do not intend to relieve Commerce, but rather to burthen it all they can. Several motions have been made and bills framed and presented for the object of relief, but they will not pass, — they hug the deformed, the monstrous bill of abominations closer and closer." To Mr. Gould, Feb. 17, 1830.

of his life. It has not been thought desirable to reproduce these, as many of them are marked by a sadness undoubtedly due to a sense of failing health; but their general tenor shows a mind of marked originality dealing with the problems of life in the spirit of a sound and wholesome philosophy. The verses relate chiefly, though not entirely, to serious subjects; to man's place in the world and his relations to God, to Nature and God's place in Creation, and to man's treatment of and responsibility to his brother man. The stern theology of his boyhood days, embodied in the implacable justice of the Almighty, is met by a simple belief in the Divine goodness and mercy, while not abating a whit the unerring consequence of man's acts to his own nature and destiny. As we have seen, he came to be in religious belief a Unitarian, a faith which has in most cases been adopted by his children and their descendants. In the lighter forms of versification he had considerable skill, bits of rhymed sentiment often accompanying gifts to his grandchildren and others, while odd fragments of nonsensical verse, with which he used to amuse the family circle, are remembered to this day. A few of the proverbs which he was fond of using and which are taken from a long list in his own handwriting, are the following:—

"Virtue which parleys is near a surrender."

"Exercise and temperance are the parents of health."

"If you have nothing good to say, say nothing."

"A just man fears nothing but his God."

"Better be found in a correct road alone than with multitudes in a perverse way."

One of the best remembered, and his own, showing the impression of a singularly uniform life, is:

"Habit is n't second nature ; it is first nature."

His recorded reflections are in line with his philosophy, and reveal the leading traits of his character, — unresting energy, promptness, fair dealing, and a strong sense of justice and obligation in the conduct of affairs. Of his lasting remembrance of past kindness, his ready sympathy with those in trouble and his desire to serve them, we have seen evidence in his letters. He undertook at various times the guardianship of property and persons where the claim was no other than that of a business acquaintance, notably in the case of Sarah Frances Pierce, granddaughter of Major Jacob Wood of Savannah, involving long-continued and difficult duties in the care of the ward. He was also the guardian of Charles Bruce, his former supercargo, upon his becoming insane. His private life was unstained and his affections strong and lasting. His hospitality was so wide that Mrs. Goddard often said that the management of the Summer Street home was "like keep-

ing a hotel." His tender care for his children is well illustrated by an incident which occurred in the childhood of his two oldest daughters. He had taken them with him in the chaise on one of his visits to Medford, where he was building a ship, when by collision with another vehicle the chaise was overturned in such a way that he must have fallen upon the children. By a dexterous movement he contrived to reverse the balance so that he himself fell underneath; he was considerably hurt by the fall, but the children were unharmed.

Mr. Goddard was an impulsive man, expressing his opinions plainly and directly, and intolerant of all quibbling and unnecessary delay. In his engagements he was punctuality itself, and was invariably to be found at the place of appointment awaiting his caller with a cheery "Come, sir, I 'm waiting for you." In this, as in other things, he was a firm believer in what would now be called "old-fashioned" habits, regretting the tendency towards looser methods of business and living which he thought he detected in the world about him during his later years. The discipline, and at times the hard usage, of a strenuous life had not, however, embittered a nature so open to kindly impulse and impression, and the memory of the merchant and the man is

of one just but generous in his judgments and, while intolerant of wrong-doing, helpful and considerate to those in trouble. A lover of exact truth and a diligent adherent to the standards of right living in which he had been trained from his youth, he endeavored to inculcate their principles in his children and to transmit them to his descendants.



## APPENDIX



## APPENDIX.

### A.

DECEMBER 28, 1772.

At a meeting adjourned to hear the report of the Committee appointed December 11, the Town voted:

*First:* That the rights of the Colonists and this Province in particular as men, as Chrystians and as Subjects, as set forth in the Said Votes and Proceedings of the Town of Boston, are in the Opinion of this Town well Stated and appear to be founded on ye Laws of Nature, Divine Revelation, the British Constitution, and the Charter of this Province.

*Second:* That the Infringement and violation of those Rights, as also Set forth therein, are in the Opinion of this Town great Grievances which this People have for years past been burdened with, and for the Redress of which Petitions and Remonstrances have been made, but hitherto in vain.

*Third:* Voted the Raising of a Revennue within this Province by an assumed Power in the Brittishe House of Commons, to give and grant our Money without our Consent and appropriating the Money so Raised for the support of the Government of the Province and the Payment of the charges of the Administration of Justice therein So repugnant to the first Principles of a free Constitution and the obvious meaning and Spirit of the Royal Charter of this Province.

*Fourth:* Voted that an Establishment for the Support

of the Governor of the Province, and the Judges of the Superior Court, etc. (if the latter be already made as we have just reason to apprehend) to be paid out of the monies raised as aforesaid, independent of the Free Gifts and Grants of the Commons of this Province, are in the Opinion of this Town leading and alarming steps towards rendering the whole executive Power independent of the People, and setting up a despotic Government in the Province.

*Fifth:* Voted that the Representative of this Town be and hereby is instructed to exert his utmost Powers and Abilities in the General Assembly with constant Perseverance in promoting such Measures there as will speedily and effectually to Remove these and other intolerable Grievances enumerated in the aforesaid Votes and Proceedings of the Town of Boston.

*Sixth:* Voted that the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in thus clearly stating our Rights, and holding up so many of our Grievances in one View, have done an acceptable Service to this Town and Province and that the sincere and hearty thanks of this Town be hereby given to them therefore.

*Seventh:* Voted that there be a Committee now chosen to write to the Committee of Correspondence in Boston and Communicate to them a true attested copy of the foregoing votes, and also further correspond with said Committee of Boston or any other Towns if they shall think it needful.

The Committee chosen consisted of William Hyslop, Isaac Gardner, John Harris, Deacon Ebenezer Davis, Captain Benjamin White, Isaac Child, and John Goddard.

## B.

The Arms of the Goddard Family are thus described:  
Gules, a chevron vair, between three crescents argent.

Crest — a stag's head affrontée couped at the neck  
gules, attired or.

Motto — Cervus non Servus.

## C.

Dec. 8, 1798, President John Adams in his opening speech to Congress said: "The Commissioners appointed to determine what river was truly intended under the name of the river St. Croix mentioned in the treaty of peace, and forming a part of the boundary line therein described, have finally decided that question. On the 25th day of October last they made a declaration, that a river called Schoodic, which falls into Passamaquoddy Bay at its northwestern quarter, was the true St. Croix intended in the treaty of peace, as far as its great fork, where one of its streams comes from the westward, and the other from the northward; and that the latter stream is the continuation of the St. Croix to its source."

## D.

September 19, 1829, Mr. Gould, then in Europe, writes in his Journal:

"We passed this day in the country with the family of Mr. Mertens, with which we were greatly pleased. The Chateau la Bassette is beautifully situated, and the grounds Mr. Mertens is working wonders with; he seems to have a great taste for agriculture and horticulture. He gave me an

account of his house, the origin and present condition of the firm, and said they had more money than they could employ in their business, and to ease the house of the burden of too much interest on the capital furnished by himself he had invested very largely his private property in lands, which did not yield him but about three per cent. interest. He owns an immense tract of tillage land about a mile from his Chateau. But all he said was so well timed that it had no appearance of ostentation and a wish to display, but he desired to convince me as an affair of business that it was no hardship but rather a thing desirable to advance on shipments made to the house."

#### E.

On the 9th of October, 1829, Gould makes this entry in his Journal: —

"It rained most of the day, but we made shift to get about and see the town [Zurich] in the morning, and in the P. M. we rode out to Küssnacht to the church where Frederic was buried. The monument of polished black marble is placed in the eastern wall of the church outside, and is as fresh, and the letters of gold are as bright, as if they had been there but a few days instead of nine years. It is very neat and chaste, and in all respects fitting the object for which it was made. We found Mr. and Mrs. Keller at their house in Goldbeck. They seemed gratified by our visit and appeared to have taken an interest in this melancholy event never to be forgotten or outgrown. Mr. Keller still retains the clothes worn by Frederic when he was drowned; he took us to the spot where the body was brought ashore, then to a carriage-house at some rods distant where he showed a



variety of implements prepared and ready to rescue from the water any unfortunate being who might meet a similar accident in that vicinity. I believe he has appropriated to this use the money which father sent him to pay the expense he was at in consequence of this dispensation.<sup>1</sup> Our visit to this amiable and interesting family served to convince us of their kind and feeling disposition more thoroughly than ever, though they had given sufficient proofs before of disinterested benevolence. When Mr. Keller had shown us all that he could conveniently that he thought interesting, he said, 'There is one thing more' and took out his watch and showed the seal and key that were Frederic's. 'These memorials alone,' said he, 'I have reserved to myself and worn them from that time. Do you recognize them, madam?' said he to Lucretia, 'and will you not take them?' We parted from this kind friend not without emotion, after this interview so grateful to our feelings and so honorable to this estimable man. It seems quite surprising that so deep and lasting an interest should have been inspired by this event in a gentleman in a strange country, and a stranger to all the parties connected with it. Young Mr. Trotter with his parents and sister had recently made a visit to Küssnacht, and had passed some days at Mr. Keller's house."

## F.

In the summer of 1829 Mr. and Mrs. Gould visited Mr. Wordsworth and his family at Rydal Mount, and Mr.

<sup>1</sup> In addition to reimbursing them for expenses Mr. Goddard had sent to Mr. Keller and to the Reverend Mr. Hess each five hundred francs, to be appropriated "as they might think proper or as should be most congenial to their feelings."

Gould makes this entry in his Journal under date of July 8: —

“We took a post chaise for Ambleside, seventeen miles, and called on Mr. Wordsworth at Rydal Mount, two miles short of Ambleside. We found the poet and his family at home; our letter from Mr. Southey, and the well-known calamity which befell his fellow traveller, Mr. F. W. Goddard, the brother of Mrs. Gould, soon made us all feel acquainted. Tea was served while we stayed, and Mrs. Wordsworth took Mrs. Gould to her chamber and read the parts of her journal through Switzerland which related to the separation from Mr. G. and his subsequent melancholy end. We engaged to return to breakfast the next morning in case we remained over night at Ambleside, and then took our leave.

“9th. Thursday. We slept at Ambleside and went up to Rydal Mount to breakfast. Mr. Wordsworth’s family at home consisted of himself and lady, one son and one daughter; young Mr. Wordsworth is an Oxford scholar and is preparing for the Bar. At breakfast Mr. Wordsworth was very fluent and almost eloquent at times in conversation. He seemed to take a deep interest in public affairs, deprecated the Catholic Emancipation as much as Mr. Southey, and thought it fraught with danger. Indeed he intimated some doubt as to the permanent responsibility of the monied institutions of England, and was solicitous of placing in the United States funds some few thousand pounds sterling which he found it difficult to invest with security where he could realize any considerable interest. After breakfast we walked a mile or more over the grounds in the vicinity and viewed the falls of a small stream which

are quite beautiful. When we were to take leave, Mr. Wordsworth said his daughter would drive Mrs. Gould to Ambleside in her chair with a pretty little pony; the ladies rode forward, while Mr. Wordsworth and his son both walked with me to Ambleside, a degree of politeness not often shown to a stranger as the distance was two miles. We bid good-bye to these kind and hospitable friends and took the coach to Kendal, fourteen miles, where we spent the night."

## G.

"There is at this date existing, in the possession of Ambrose Goddard of the Lawn, Swindon, a curious printed circular, much worm-eaten and partly obliterated, which he discovered in searching in an old chest. It has an ornamental border of twelve engraved shields, bearing the arms of the different branches of the Goddard family, interspersed with hearts; between the shields are scrolls with the names Wiltshire, Leicestershire, Star Chamber, Norfolk, Cheshire, Lincolnshire, Salisbury, Kent. The remainder are blanks. In the centre is the following invitation:—

There is a friendly meeting  
Of those whose Sr name be  
Goddard

Sr your company is lovingly desyred only for  
Socyetie and Acquaintance

The times of meeting on the 5th day of every month in ye yeare, except on Sunday, then on ye following, from Lady daye to Michaelmas at 6, from Michaelmas to Lady daye at 4 o'clock in the afternoon at the Red Bull behind St. Nicholas Shambles, called Mount Goddard Streete.

At the beginning and end of the first sentence there are admirable monograms containing the letters of the

name of Goddard. The impression is from an engraved plate, well executed; there is no date, but I think it may be referred to the early part of the Seventeenth Century. 'Goddard, Gutter Lane, Sculpt' inscribed at one corner." [From a letter of Rainald W. K. Goddard to Miss Mary Watson (Mrs. George H. Wright), dated October, 1896.]











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